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LAOS

COMMENTARY SCORES U.S., PRC, THAILAND ON CAMBODIA STANCES

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 12 May 86 p 4

[Column: "War Mongering Schemes of Imperialists and Their Henchmen Must Be Stopped Promptly"]

[Text] We have learned from news reports from Phnom Penh last Sunday that during the month of April, AN 19 and A 37 aircraft and helicopters of rightist reactionaries in Thai power circles flew over and spied on the northern border area where [Laos, Cambodia and Thailand] join, north of Angkor Wat, Daoun Obok, Poi Pet and other areas near the Thai-Cambodian border. Along with that, these aircraft also intruded over Kampuchean waters up to 922 times over Ko Kong island and Ko Tang. They shot 1000 projectiles into Kampuchean territory to protect reactionary Khmer infiltrating into Kampuchean territory.

These activities of rightist reactionaries in Thai power circles are in addition to those coordinated by Beijing reactionaries, who have shot up to 20,000 projectiles across Vietnam's northern boundary. These show to Laos the obscurantist schemes of the imperialists and their henchmen in continuing to create tensions to achieve their bellicose goals.

As we are well aware, the Washington administration still has not learned its lesson at all from the pain of the shameful defeat in 1975 of the American imperialists in the Indochinese war. This shows clearly in their persistence in continuing to show their faces in Southeast Asia once again as international military police.

Under the guise of a so-called solution to the conflict in Kampuchea, the American imperialists are conspiring with the Beijing international reactionaries to expand the area of the undeclared war against the Kampuchean people, who are building new lives after being liberated from the genocide of Pol Pot. The recent promotion of military relations between Beijing and Washington is shown by the recent visit of Chang Te Sche, the Chinese supreme military commander. During this visit, Washington agreed to sell military materials to China worth \$550 million and made agreements in other areas.

The United States has not reduced its pressure and has been pushing its schemes, starting with its aid to reactionary Khmer, under a claim that these Khmer are not "communists." Now their aid for Khmer refugees through Thailand has been

stepped up to selling weapons to Thailand as a so-called necessity for the security of Thailand. Currently, light arms are manufactured in Thailand and the United States is again providing assistance in searching for ways to improve Thai troops in Thailand.

Based on these developments, are not Washington's real intentions toward Southeast Asia as clear as night and day? What are Washington's intentions, if not to return to the old line from which they experienced such pain in 1975?

Consequently, rightist reactionaries in Thai power circles are provoking neighboring countries and continuing to support and cooperate with the genocidal criminal Pol Pot group, who hope to kill the people of Kampuchea again. They support a mere ghost government through the body of a so-called "democratic coalition government" in order to create tensions that will destroy the security and stability of this region. Their aim is to distract the interests of the people in this region and the world populace, who have started to worry deeply about official agreements in Bangkok and Washington for making weapons on Thai soil.

For more than 20 years, the United States of America has used Thai soil as a military base for carrying out wars to destroy the people of the three Indo-chinese nations. The people of this region and the American people still remember the disasters, the savagery and damage of the destructive war of the American imperialists that is returning once again to this region. This return is strongly opposed by the opinion of people of this region and by the Thai people. Surely, all the war-mongering schemes of the imperialists and their henchmen will be defeated as they were in 1975; there is no doubt about that.

12597
CSO: 4206/109

LAOS

ARMY FAULTS PARTY MEMBERS' INATTENTION TO MASSES

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 17 Apr 86 pp 1, 4

[Column: "Party Members' Closeness to Masses"]

[Excerpt] A few party members, including those who make their daily living with the masses, are not close to the masses. They refuse to be close and refuse to listen to the opinion of the masses; therefore, they do not know the public's thinking, opinions and desires. Even though party members may be knowledgeable about the masses, their knowledge is incomplete or inappropriate for the real situation. This will make the party organization, policymaking, work methods, and decision-making in various departments unclear. On top of that, this lack of interest in the masses causes damage, reflects on party weaknesses, makes the masses unhappy and makes departments progress slowly. But there are special cases: a number of party members are brave, enthusiastic, technologically oriented, strategically inclined and well educated. However, they are unable to expand their leadership role and cannot lead because they not close to the masses. They do not know the masses, so they can not succeed. They do not get the attention and support they need from the masses for their work to be accomplished with great efficiency.

The facts confirm more and more clearly that party members, regardless of whether they are in high or low positions, must all be close to the masses in order to perform their work successfully. For any party member, to start to be distant from the masses is the same as keeping distant from organizations, his role and his duty. If party members see this problem, we must exert our efforts to train ourselves continuously so that being close to the masses is systematic and becomes routine.

As for those party members who are presently in grassroots departments of the army, being close to the masses is, above all, being close to the LPRYU, to LPRYU members and youth groups in general. Each party member must be concerned with every area of activity of LPRYU committees and members. He must assist in organizing, guiding and educating youth to make them strong in every area to overcome weaknesses, make them progress continuously and perform their duties thoroughly in every area of their work. He must be close to the masses, meaning take the responsibility to visit them as a leader, with respect, trust and care. He must oppose old and traditional ideas, such as refusing to be educated himself about the masses or refusing to listen to the masses. And he must also oppose insincere approaches and superficial relations with the masses.

Being close to the masses means to go deeply into real problems, to know the masses well, to accept the ideas and abilities and condition and desires of each person. And each party member must find ways to encourage each person to study in order to promote every ability of the masses in every revolutionary task. To do that, party members must take time to be close to the LPRYU, to be enthusiastic in every activity of the LPRYU, to set examples of self criticism and mutually constructive criticism and to encourage youth to be enthusiastic in participating in and developing and leading party organizations and being honest.

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LAOS

EDITORIAL DEMANDS HALT TO FOREST BURNING FOR FARMING

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "Reform To Make Farming Appropriate"]

[Excerpt] The policy of our party and state toward the farming problem in midland areas is to reduce or eliminate slash and burn farming, and to promote the farming by tilling the earth or by "terrace farming," for example.

To implement this policy in every province, farmers are encouraged to farm by tilling the soil or by terrace farming in locations where conditions permit them; for example, in Houa Phanh, Xieng Khouang and Phong Saly Provinces. In locations lacking favorable conditions, farmers are encouraged to farm by weeding or slash and burn; there are not forbidden in dry grasslands areas that are located far away from streams or watersheds. The area of midland farming by slash and burn has been reduced considerably; for example, in 1985 it was reduced by 23,000 ha over that in 1981, which was the first year in the 5-year plan.

Nevertheless, this achievement is still too small in comparison with the agricultural policy of our party and state. The midland farming area is currently still vast. In certain provinces, the area has increased instead of being reduced. For example, in Oudomsai Province, there were 38,420 ha of midland farming area in 1981, but in 1985, there were 40,370 ha. In Luang Prabang Province, the midland farming area increased from 54,570 ha to 56,000 during the same period; in Houa Phanh Province, it increased from 31,064 ha to 37,795 ha. This is not a good sign. In accordance with the agricultural policy of our state and party, we must strive to solve this problem.

Based on the actual situation, we stepped up in 1986, which is the first year of the second 5-year state plan. In our opinion, it is necessary that cadres at every level, authorities, and every agricultural section in every province should have plans to eliminate slash and burn farming each year by encouraging farmers to farm by weeding, tilling the soil and stepping up to terrace farming in places where conditions permit. This is especially true for the hill tribes, who are primarily midland farmers, now that the rice farming season has arrived. Therefore, the main thing is to guide them in farming seasonally and efficiently because their harvests are important for increasing the national food supply to reach projected goals, namely, 1.6 million tons this year alone, and for raising and improving their living standards.

Surely it is very difficult to take charge of nature by midland farming and to prevent damage in midland farming from natural disasters or wildlife. However, if we are knowledgeable in management and guidance, we can reduce the damage and raise midland rice production. Party committees, administrators and authorities of agricultural sections in every province where the majority of the people earn their living in midland rice production, more than ever must consider this task as being very important in performing their duties, starting with weighing their understanding of the policy of the party and state concerning slash and burn farming.

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CSO: 4206/109

THAILAND

CHIANG MAI OFFICIALS SEIZE SHIPMENT OF WEAPONS FROM PRC

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 6 Jun 86 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] A news report from Chiang Mai stated that at 0700 hours on 5 June, police officials from the Chiang Mai provincial police station in Hot District received a report from the Ob Luang inspection station stating that a yellow Toyota pickup truck, license No Chiang Mai-5705, had sped past the checkpoint without stopping to allow officials to conduct an inspection. They suspected that the truck was carrying contraband and so they asked officials from the provincial police station in Hot District to help intercept the truck. After receiving this report, Police Lt Col Somsak Phutthamek, the chief inspector, and Police Maj Thanasan Phraitho, the investigation inspector, took a number of men and set up a checkpoint along the Chiang Mai-Mae Sariang highway at Kilometer 2 in Hang Dong Subdistrict, Hot District.

A short time later, this pickup truck approached the checkpoint, and officials signaled it to stop. When the driver saw the large number of officials there, he decided to stop and allow them to conduct an inspection. In the rear of the truck, the officials found 134 gunny bags. Beneath the gunny bags, they found crates of weapons, including 55 RPGs, 55 bars of RPG gun powder, 15,360 rounds of AK ammunition, and 420 rounds of Sekase ammunition. Thus, the police arrested the driver, who was alone. During the interrogation, the suspect, who was identified as Mr Bunta Panyapo, age 26, who lives at Village 4 in Pialuang Subdistrict, Wiang Haeng Branch District, confessed that he had been hired to transport these weapons from Mae Hong Son and deliver them to a Haw Chinese at Tham Ngop in Chiang Dao District. He said that these weapons had come from Red China. He had been paid 5,000 baht to transport this shipment of weapons. Mr Bunta said that he was just the hired driver. The truck belonged to Mr Pleng Panyapo, his father. Following that, Police Lt Col Somsak reported this to Police Col Sanam Khongmuang, the superintendent of Chiang Mai Province, and, together with Police Lt Gen Niyom Kanchanawat, the commissioner of the police provincial 3, went to interrogate the suspect. Officials are still holding Mr Bunta in an effort to discover the identity of those behind this.

Police Lt Gen Niyom Kanchanawat, the commissioner of the police provincial 3, reported this to Police Gen Narong Mahanon, the director-general of the Police Department. Police Gen Narong is very interested in this, and on 6 June he will fly there to investigate the matter himself. The objective is to put a stop to those minority groups that are stirring up trouble and causing problems for Thai officials. He will also take this opportunity to investigate the serious crime that was committed 2-3 months ago.

THAILAND

NAKHON PHANOM VILLAGERS PROTEST LAO REFUGEE CENTER

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 22 Jun 86 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] In Nakhon Phanom at 1000 hours on 21 June, approximately 500 villagers from Ban Noen Sa-at, Ban Sang Hin, and Ban Narat Khwai in Narat Khwai Subdistrict, Muang District, who were carrying posters staged a protest in front of the Democracy Hall at the Ban Narat Khwai school. They were unhappy about provincial officials building a Lao refugee center at Ban Khok Nam Kiang in Narat Khwai Subdistrict. The posters criticized the provincial govenor for doing something against the wishes of the people. They threatened that if he went ahead with this, they would return their identification cards and refuse to vote.

At present, approximately 2,000 Lao refugees, including women, elderly people, and children are living behind the Nakhon Phanom provincial police station in Muang District. They are not being properly supervised and so there is a lack of order and the area is very dirty. This is because these Lao refugees have to stay in that one place. And there is no fence to help maintain good control over them. The police station suggested that the province move these Lao refugees to another location for interrogation before sending them to the Ban Napho refugee center. The province passed a resolution to build a detainment center at Ban Khok Nam Kiang, which is almost finished. When the villagers in the area found out about this, they joined together to protest against this, because they think that these Lao refugees will cause trouble.

Mr Uthai Nakpricha, the governor of Nakhon Phanom Province, and Police Lt Col Krutsana Sangkhanon, the deputy police superintendent, went to explain things to the villagers. But the villagers stood their ground and demanded that the province stop work on this refugee detention center. After 3 hours of negotiations, the villagers were still opposed to this and so Mr Uthai promised to submit the matter to the Ministry of Interior in order to find a way to solve the problem. The villagers, who were represented in the negotiations by Mr Mana Khusakun, Mr Sawat Kaeobunta, and Mr Kan Chaison, members of the Nakhon Phanom provincial council, agreed to disperse that afternoon.

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THAILAND

CUSTOMS UNIT FACES MAFIA, UNHELPFUL MALAYS

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 18 Jun 86 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Southern Customs Unit Encounters a Tough Enemy, Mafia Groups That Smuggle Goods Take Action To Have Officials Transferred"]

[Text] Customs officials in the south have encountered a major problem. Mafia groups that deals in smuggled goods has taken action to have officials transferred out of the area. Preparations are being made to launch a new suppression campaign using 10-wheeled trucks as mobile bases. Some Malaysian officials help the smugglers by informing them of the movements of Thai officials.

Mr Somchainuk Engtrakun, the director of the Region 1 Customs Checkpoint in Songkhla, told MATICHON that customs officials have been busy suppressing smugglers along the southern border for almost a year now. They have had to fight several mafia groups, including both direct and indirect mafia groups. Because of this, these mafia groups have used various stratagems and tricks to force these officials out of the southern border area.

Mr Somchainuk said that since 1 June, customs has moved officials from customs checkpoints in noncritical areas to areas where the situation is serious, such as along the border near Padang Besar. Plans have been revised as necessary in order to increase efficiency. Ten-wheeled trucks are being used as mobile bases. From these bases, checkpoint officials and Border Patrol Police carry on operations along the border 24 hours a day. Resolute action will be taken in every case. No mercy will be shown.

A news report stated that in smuggling goods near Padang Besar, the smugglers mock Thai officials. Because some Malaysian officials in towers give signals to inform the smugglers about the movements of the Thai officials.

Besides that, people have built many houses along the Thai-Malaysian border. This enables the smugglers to evade the customs officials and police. The smugglers leave the goods with villagers who live along the border. They then use 10-wheeled trucks to come get the goods at night. This is causing officials much worry.

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5 August 1986

THAILAND

FORMER STUDENT LEADER THIRAYUTH COMMENTS ON CHAWALIT

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 7 Jun 86 p 15

[Unattributed report: "Former Student Leader Says That the Army Must Improve Its Ideals"]

[Text] At a meeting, Mr Thirayuth Boonmee, a former student leader, spoke on the topic "The Army's New Line." The meeting was organized by the political economics group at Chulalongkorn University. Some soldiers feel that the firing of Gen Athit Kamlangek from his position as RTA CINC was tantamount to defusing a bomb or stopping the fire at the source and preventing this from causing a split within the military, which could have caused a crisis and led to violence or even a civil war.

"The fact that Gen Chawalit has stated that he intends to increase the army's efficiency and keep the army out of politics shows that he is aware of the problem that has arisen. Because the army will not be able to develop if it is tied to politics. And politics will not be able to develop if it is tied to the military. Gen Chawalit is a new-age soldier who will turn the military into a group of truly professional soldiers," said Mr Thirayuth.

Mr Thirayuth said that the military's involvement in politics has had serious effects on the military. Soldiers have viewed civilians and politicians as the enemy. Because of this, the military's political ideal has been the coup d'etat. The military has interfered in economics, and the position of minister of defense has been both a political and a military position. Powerful people have sought to hold this position. This problem must be solved by changing the military's ideals. The overlapping programs in the army and the cliques, classes, and the system of patronage, must be eliminated.

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THAILAND

EXPECTED CHANGES IN ARMY UNDER CHAWALIT LEADERSHIP VIEWED

Bangkok MATICHON SUT SAPDA in Thai 15 Jun 86 pp 4-6

[Unattributed report: "The Military Reform Line of Big Chiu"]

[Excerpts] A military news source close to Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut revealed through various newspapers that as for structural changes, under Gen Chawalit the army will be particularly strict about the position of "attached to army headquarters." The number of personnel assigned to this position will be limited to 88. If a person retires from a nonessential position, the position will be left vacant.

Even though these statements were not made by Gen Chawalit himself, they provide a clear indication of what changes may be made in the army's structure in the near future.

A New Sign for the Army Under Gen Chawalit

Since he was appointed RTA CINC on 27 May, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut has made several statements that reflect the army's new ideological dimension. He said that the "army will focus on carrying out the tasks assigned it." And, the "army will try to stay out of political matters that do not concern it and that are not its responsibility."

The RTA CINC will be required to reveal his personal assets when he takes this position so that his personal assets can be audited correctly and fairly when he leaves this position.

Transfers and appointments will no longer be made independently. This will be done by committee in order to ensure fairness.

At the same time, an army news report stated that Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut has ordered a work team to draft a set of army operating procedures based on the following four lines:

1. To unify the army within 2 years.
2. To make the army more democratic.

3. To increase the efficiency of army personnel, from privates to generals.

4. To implement a policy of frugality.

The news source said that 50 percent of the new recruits will be drafted using the old method. The other 50 percent will be selected from applicants of draft age. The purpose of this is to help put a stop to the corruption that takes place during the draft.

"The new soldiers will be taught other things besides how to use weapons. They will be taught about political, economic, and social matters, too," said the news source.

The Reform Line, the Visible Line

As for developing the thahan phran irregulars, which is the responsibility of Maj Gen Chatichaloem Lekphithak, this involves giving weapons training to civilians. This is being done using paramilitary forces. This also a way for the army to save a huge amount of money as compared with maintaining soldiers on active duty.

The thahan phran irregulars played an important role in smashing Khun Sa and driving him out of Ban Hin Taek, which is now known as Ban Thoet Thai. The thahan phran forces have expanded rapidly. At first, they operated just in those areas where the Communist Party of Thailand was active. The strategy was to use a "thorn to pick a thorn" in the struggle against the village forces of the Thai People's Liberation Army. But now, the thahan phran forces have become a vital element in every army area. In each army area, in addition to the personnel, intelligence, operations, logistics, civil affairs, and comptroller sections, there is now a thahan phran irregular section, too.

From this, it can be seen that the thahan phran irregular forces will continue to expand. It is possible that they could form another division. They could become a combat support division that could reduce the number of personnel in other sectors.

As for administration within the military, the democratic atmosphere will become more lively, with the trend being to decentralize power. Not only will transfers and appointments be handled by committee, but the secret government fund and anticommunist struggle line will be handled by units and organizations. Everything won't be centered on the RTA CINC alone.

Administration by Committee, Democracy in the Army

The military structure has had great weaknesses concerning the appointment of people to certain positions, such as staff positions in the Office of the Commander, Army Headquarters, the position of special army operations officer, and the position of army specialist. People have been assigned to these positions as a reward or to help a friend rather than because of their suitability or skills.

In the past, just so a friend could be promoted to major general, the person was appointed staff officer attached to a commander. And a few days later, the person resigned his commission in order to take an important position in a state enterprise. And some people were assigned to these positions so that they could retire from government service with the rank of major general.

Gen Chawalit's proposal to have a committee play a role in discussing appointments will help close this loophole and put a stop to playing favorites and helping friends before they retire. This will help improve the quality of the army. The fact that there are 220 general officer slots does not stem from an expansion of the army. Rather, the main reason is that there are so many slots for special operations officers and army experts.

What the army will do during the time that Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut is in command is something that many people are watching with great interest. As for whether the army will be filled with a spirit of democracy and/or develop based on having a trim force that sticks to its duties, this is not something that can be determined by looking at what is said. Rather, the decisive thing is what is actually done.

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CSO: 4207/282

THAILAND

EDITORIAL: PREM SPOKESMAN DEFAMED ATHIT ON ARMY SECRET FUND

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Jun 86 p 8

[Editorial: "A Harmful Statement About the Secret Government Fund"]

[Text] One person spoke about the army's secret fund in a negative way. That is, his statement was damaging to the Royal Thai Army. He said that people had used money from this fund illegally. For this reason, the army issued a statement informing the people about the rules and regulations that govern the use of this secret fund and explaining how expenditures are controlled.

The person who spread this report damaging to the army is none other than Mr Trairong Suwannakhiri, the government spokesman. He made this statement while campaigning for parliament in Songkhla Province.

The government spokesman issued a propaganda statement about the use of this secret fund, saying that people had used money from this secret army fund for political purposes. He said that they had used the money to bribe MPs to vote against the government acts submitted to parliament and that this succeeded. We feel that the government spokesman was intentionally trying to damage the reputation and honor of the former RTA CINC, Gen Athit Kamlangek. Because only the RTA CINC has the authority to authorize the use of money from this secret fund.

We are very upset that the government spokesman said this. Because following that, senior army officers were removed from their positions and transferred. We are happy that the new RTA CINC, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, has shown an interest in this matter. We feel that such statements are intentionally aimed at damaging the army. Something should be done to counter this harmful propaganda. The new RTA CINC has ordered subordinates to consider what action can be taken to counter this harmful statement, which has smeared the army.

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CSO: 4207/280

THAILAND

ARMY RECEIVES NO ORDERS TO CLOSE ELECTION CENTERS

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 13 Jun 86 pp 1, 12

[Unattributed report: "2d Army Area Won't Close Election Centers Yet; There Have Been Rumors but No Orders"]

[Text] The 2d Army Area stated that it has not received any new orders concerning the military election centers. It said that it is necessary to conduct a survey on the number of personnel who have the right to vote.

There has been much talk about whether the election monitoring centers established when Gen Athit Kamlangek was still the RTA CINC will be closed. Maj Gen Phaibun Hongsinlak, the 2d Army Area chief of staff, talked with SIAM RAT on 12 June about the military election monitoring centers. He said that he does not know too much about this. All he has heard is that Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the RTA CINC, has ordered the centers closed. But he has not received any new orders. He does not think that there will be any problems, because the RTA CINC has stated that the military will not interfere in politics.

Maj Gen Phaibun said that the 2d Army Area is already conducting a survey on the number of personnel who have the right to vote. But the number isn't known yet, because the reports haven't been received. It is the duty of a unit commander to inform those personnel whose documents are not in order so that they do not lose their right to vote.

"We have warned people that if they want to vote, they must have things in order. We will carry on public relations activities to encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote," said Maj Gen Phaibun. He added that the election atmosphere in the zone of the 2d Army Area is very spirited, but the situation is peaceful and orderly.

A military news source from a combat unit told SIAM RAT that these military election monitoring centers aren't doing anything wrong and won't harm anything. The objective is to encourage soldiers and their families to exercise their right to vote. As for what is worrying people, no orders have been given.

The news source said that after his unit received orders to prepare forces to exercise their right to vote, his unit conducted a survey on the number of personnel who have the right to vote. It was found that only 30 percent were qualified to vote. The others did not have their documents in order.

"The objective is fine. This will increase soldiers' awareness about the election. But this might have alarmed the people," said the news source. He added that as far as the establishment of these centers was concerned, it didn't matter whether the order was a verbal or written order.

Lt Gen Charuai Wongsayan will announce the army's election policy on 13 June.

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CSO: 4207/280

THAILAND

PLANS FOR GOVERNMENT RICE BANK REVIVED

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 22 Jun 86 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "Government Plans To Spend More Than 1 Billion To Establish a Rice Bank To Help the Farmers"]

[Text] Farmers have hit the jackpot again. The government is preparing to establish a rice bank to help the farmers. More than 1 billion baht will be obtained from the oil fund, national bank, and commercial banks. The new government will be the one to approve this.

A news report from the Government House informed SIAM RAT that the present caretaker government headed by Gen Prem Tinsulanon has formulated a project to inject more than 1 billion baht to help the farmers. About 600 million baht will be obtained from the rice reserve fund. This will be added to 200 million baht from the Farmers' Welfare Fund and 200 million baht from the Rice Policy Promotion Measure of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives for a total of 1 billion baht. If this is not enough, the government will obtain additional funds from the oil fund or from the Bank of Thailand and various commercial banks.

However, this rice bank project must be approved by the government that is elected on 27 July. Thus, all that is being done now is to gather data for the new administration after it takes office.

As for this rice bank project, it has been said that the government must play a part because the farmers do not have any bargaining power. Even though the government has tried to raise rice prices by abolishing the various export fees and extending credit at low rates of interest to the rice mills and farmers' institutions, these things have not achieved anything. Paddy prices are still depressed, but rice prices that consumers pay are high and not in line with paddy prices.

Thus, the rice bank will purchase paddy from the farmers at a price approximately 10 percent higher than the market price. It will stockpile this rice for domestic consumption or mill the rice for export based on government-to-government rice sales contracts. Or it will have the rice packed in sacks for sale to people with low incomes at prices that are in accord with paddy prices. This will help the farmers and low-income families.

The objective is to help the small farmers and low-income consumers in the localities, who will be able to purchase rice at prices that are in line with paddy prices. It will also be possible to reserve paddy in order to ensure food security and help people in times of natural disasters.

As for where this will be carried out, important rice-growing provinces in each region will be selected in order to help farmers throughout the country. During the 1986/1987 annual wet rice season, the project will get underway in Chachoengsao, Ayuthaya, Lopburi, Suphanburi, and Nakhon Sawan provinces. This will then be expanded to other provinces.

The project board of directors will be composed of the deputy prime minister, who will serve as president of the board, the minister of agriculture and cooperatives and the minister of commerce, who will serve as vice presidents, and the under secretary of agriculture and cooperatives, the under secretary of commerce, the director-general of the Department of Agricultural Extension, the director-general of the Cooperatives Promotion Department, the deputy director-general of the Department of Foreign Trade, and others for a total of 18 members.

On 2 June, the cabinet passed a resolution approving the proposal by the Secretariat of the Prime Minister to allow the Marketing Organization for Agriculture (MOA) to spend up to 750 million baht to purchase second rice crop rice at prices 10 percent above market prices. If farmers sell more than 750 million baht worth of rice, the MOA can use funds from the Farmers' Welfare Fund and from the funds received from the project to pay for fertilizer with paddy. There are 100 million baht left in this fund. If the MOA runs a deficit in carrying out this project, this can be considered to be a default by deducting the amount from the Farmers' Welfare Fund before the money is repaid.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

MOVEMENT TO REDUCE AVERAGE AGE OF SECURITY CHIEFS DISCUSSED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 11 May 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by P.V. (Reporter): Public Security Sector Brings Young and Talented People Into the Leadership Ranks of the Subward and Village Public Security Forces"]

[Text] The Board of Directors of the Municipal Public Security Forces has guided the ward and district public security forces in inspecting the leading public security cadres in the subwards and villages. Older cadres who are in poor health, who do not have the capabilities to carry out their tasks, who do not have adequate moral qualities, or who do not complete the tasks have been examined carefully one by one in order to assign them other jobs or provide a policy and replace them with young and capable cadres on the spot who have cultural standards and revolutionary morals.

To date, almost all the public security forces in the urban districts have made plans to replace a number of subward public security chiefs who do not meet the above standards. Based on estimates made in a number of wards, this reshuffle will lower the average age of subward security chiefs 7 to 10 years. In Precinct 8, the average age of the subprecinct security chiefs is now 42.16. This will decline to 33.45. In Go Vap, after replacing five subward security chiefs who were over 40 years old, the average age of the subward security chiefs was the lowest in the city. The average age of the subward security chiefs in Tan Binh Ward dropped from over 40 to 35.04 after the older comrades (the oldest was 54) were reassigned to other jobs. In recent years, the Precinct 11 public security forces have constantly worked to lower the age of the leading cadres at the primary level. Thus, although there was not very much "commotion" this time, the average age of the subprecinct security chiefs is the third lowest in the city.

In a number of precincts and wards, such as precincts 6, 3, and 10 and Binh Thanh and Phu Nhuan wards, the average age of the subprecinct and subward security chiefs is still relatively high. They are actively examining the cadre situation in their units and taking steps to solidify the forces of subprecinct and subward security chiefs.

Through this campaign to lower the average age of the subward and subprecinct security commanders, the municipal public security forces have gained much

experience in reshuffling cadres. Although this was proposed many years ago, there are still units that have not done a good job. Some of the people who have been put in charge are as old as or even older than those whom they replaced. Those older cadres who are being replaced as subward and subprecinct security chief during this capmaign will be assigned to suitable occupational units so that they can continue to manifest their capabilities and make use of their many years of professional experience.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

WAREHOUSE THIEVES CAUGHT IN TAM DIEP DISTRICT

Nam Dinh HA NAM NINH in Vietnamese 23 May 86 p 3

[Article: "A Harmful Theft"]

[Text] Under the direct guidance of the district party committee, the public security police of Tam Diep District recently discovered the theft of state goods at the Do Rao warehouse during the night of 18 April and early morning of 19 April 1986. The thieves tried to cover their tracks to deceive the security police organ. But with a strong spirit of vigilance and with the assistance of the people, the security policemen made clever use of professional measures and quickly dragged the criminals out into the light. Although the trial has not yet been completed, the evidence is clear. The people who directly "performed" the theft were two Do Rao warehouse keepers. Their accomplices included two doctors who were heads of sanitation-disease prevention stations of Tam Diep District and Tam Diep City. Many cadres and party members with positions and authority in a number of agricultural cooperatives in Tam Diep and Kim Son districts were also involved in the incident.

After uncovering the above-mentioned theft the public security police of Tam Diep have not only begun to recover for the state stolen goods worth more than 300,000 dong (new money) but are also capable of exposing additional negative phenomena in a number of relevant units.

The theft of state goods at the Do Rao warehouse was a very serious theft because it was an organized, calculated act. Furthermore, the goods the stole were strategic goods which had to be purchased abroad.

Along with the other districts, during the recent period Tam Diep District has gone all-out to promote exports. Even so, in 1985 the district earned only little more than 38,000 dollars. With such a small amount of foreign exchange, during the 1986 fifth month-spring season Tam Diep had to set aside 36,000 dollars to purchase insecticides for the fields. At a time when the fifth month-spring rice in Tam Diep was being seriously affected by insects and diseases and it was necessary to clean up the environment in order to guard against 10th month diseases, people who were responsible for watching over the warehouse and caring for the people's health, out of greed and disregarding morality, brazenly stole insecticide and DDT, without regard for the urgent needs of production and life. Their deed must be regarded as a crime and definitely must be severely punished to set an example for others.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

PHAM VAN DONG'S RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARIZED

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 22 May 86 p 4

[Article: "Summary of Recommendations By Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong"]

[Text] Today I will express to you several opinions of basic importance and hot topical significance, in order to contribute to enabling our capital's revolutionary movement to continue to undergo a strong and solid transformation.

1. First of all, it is necessary to purify the Hanoi party organization, resolutely expel degenerate elements from the party, enable the party organization to truly be worthy of being a leadership force, and enable the party organization's corps of party members to truly be exemplary vanguard revolutionary warriors.
2. It is necessary to promptly and appropriately deal with ugly, corrupt people and people who commit crimes in the party organizations, the state organs, the armed forces, and the other organizations.
3. The two tasks listed above must be carried out to ensure the quality of the self-criticism and criticism campaign that is now being waged, to meet the ardent demands of the great majority of cadres and the people, consolidate confidence in the party, and resolve bottlenecks so that our undertaking can be renovated and undergo a strong transformation. Of course, we cannot immediately eliminate all negative manifestations, but we must enable the masses to clearly realize that we will not tolerate, but will resolutely deal with, ugly, corrupt people, no matter who they are.
4. In order to implement our action program, there must be a seething and extensive revolutionary mass movement and we must work with discipline and productivity, and create wealth to support ourselves and contribute to the nation. In the present situation, such an extensive, strong mass movement can only be launched, consolidated, and developed by means of creating social consciousness, create confidence and hope on the part of the working class, and mobilize the revolutionary spirit and practical acts of the broad masses.

The capital must be exemplary in that regard. All units, from the municipal level down to the ward, district, subward, village, hamlet, and neighborhood levels, and in the schools, hospitals, organs, armed organizations, etc., must "sweep their houses" clean and enable the units to be wholesome and enthusiastically endeavor to advance.

At present, everyone in Hanoi and all Vietnamese must be optimistic, confident and pure, enthusiastically participate in production and other work, oppose corruption and negativism, and oppose suspicion and indifference, criticizing but not struggling, and not producing or working. Our entire party and population must have solidarity, unanimity, and unity of thought, act in accordance with the lines of the party, struggle with courage, intelligence, and creativity, overcome difficulties, and advance to the fore. We have valuable capital which was not easily obtained: Our party, our people, our regime, our recent history, our undertaking of today, and our brilliant future. It includes the strengths of an innately wholesome organism which has been wholesome throughout the revolutionary process and is still essentially wholesome. By bringing those strengths into play, it is certain that the socialist revolution in our country will win new victories. By bringing those strengths into play, it is certain that the working class and laboring people of Hanoi are certain to enable the city of being worthy of being the heroic, civilized, and beautiful socialist capital of the entire nation.

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CSO: 4209/629

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIE1NAM

HAI PHONG PARTY COMMITTEE ISSUES DIRECTIVE ON CONGRESSES

Hai Phong HAI PHONG in Vietnamese 28 Mar 86 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Standing Committee of Municipal Party Committee Issues Directive on Carrying Out Self-Criticism and Criticism, Holding Ninth Municipal Party Organization Congress and Congresses at All Levels"]

[Text] On 23 March 1986 the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee issued a directive to the party organization regarding the carrying out of self-criticism and criticism and holding the Ninth Municipal Party Organization Congress and Party organization congresses at the basic and precinct levels.

The directive set forth the following time schedule. The Party organizations and party members will carry out self-criticism and criticism in April. The holding of basic-level party organizations will be completed in May or June, and in agricultural areas they must be held prior to the 5th month-spring harvest. The party organizations at the precinct, district, and corresponding levels will complete the holding of congresses in July or August. The Municipal Party Organization Congress will be held at the beginning of October 1986.

The directive stated that the Municipal Party Committee advocates doing a good job of carrying out self-criticism and criticism, and holding party organization congresses at the basic, precinct, district, and municipal levels will be combined with close guidance of the permanent tasks, especially the renovation of the economic management mechanism, the reorganization of production, the improvement of organization, the promotion of production, the expansion of distribution and circulation, the strengthening of social management, the creation of the new socialist man, the further stabilization of the economic-social and social psychology situations, strengthening security and national defense, and advancing to holding the Sixth Party Congress.

Prior to holding the congresses, the party committee echelons, leadership cadres, and party members must carry out self-criticism and criticism in order to strengthen the Party's ability to lead and organize implementation of its lines, strengthen unity with regard to thought and organization in the Party,

improve the organization and discipline of cadres and party members, strengthen the relationship between the Party and the masses, and create conditions for receiving and doing a good job of implementing the resolution of the resolution of the Ninth Municipal party Organization Congress and the resolutions of the Party organization congresses at all levels. The basis for self-criticism and criticism is the viewpoints and lines of the party, the resolutions of the Party Central Committee, especially resolutions 7, 8, and 9, Resolution No 28 of the Political Bureau, and the resolutions of the Municipal Party Committee and its Standing Committee. Self-criticism and criticism must be strict, sharp, enlightened, truthful, constructive, and unifying. The higher echelon must set a good example for the lower echelon and the leadership cadres must set a good example for the party members. In addition to self-criticism and criticism it is necessary to apply corrective measures, create true transformation and progress, and strengthen the confidence of cadres, party members, and the masses.

The party organization congresses at all levels must concentrate on manifesting the intelligence and strength of the entire party organization by means of self-criticism and criticism and the correct evaluation of the local economic-technical situation, and the accomplishments and remaining deficiencies, learning lessons from successes and failures and clearly determine the economic-social goals, with specific, solid steps and a rapid pace in future years, in order to quickly conclude the initial phase of the transitional phase of constructing socialism, and contribute positively to the victory of the Sixth Party Congress. The Party congresses at all levels must be held in correct accordance with principles and in a practical manner, have high quality, be fully democratic, have new ways of thinking and working, be dynamic, creative, and effective, strengthen solidarity and creativity, bring into play the traditions and resolute combativeness, and be determined to implement correctly and victoriously the revolutionary viewpoints and lines of the Party, and implement all resolutions and directives of the Party and laws of the state in order build strong party organizations, enable the basic, district, precinct, and municipal levels to be rich and strong, make greater contributions to the state, and strongly defend the municipality and the socialist Fatherland. It is necessary to democratically bring into play the intelligence of the entire Party organization and respect all constructive opinions of party members and the masses.

The directive stressed motivating the entire Party organization to undergo a strong transformation with regard to ideology and organization, renovate the economic management mechanism, promote the scientific-technical work, practice economy, participate in drafting the economic-social strategies, create the new socialist man, and perfect Hai Phong's model for progress: "Being both a municipality with a modern port and a developed industrial-agricultural-maritime economy, and one of the tourism, service, commercial, and export-import centers, as well as a clean and attractive municipality with a civilized way of life and a steel anti-aggression fortress."

The directive also stated a number of specific requirements for party committee members to be elected by the party organization congresses at all levels, so that they can be capable of meeting the new requirements and to ensure the victorious leadership of all political-social missions set forth by

the Congress. In electing cadres to the Party committees it is first all necessary to meet the requirement of improving the quality of economic leadership, while also ensuring the strengthening of leadership national defense, security, and the Party and mass work at the basic level and at the lower echelon, bring combined strength into play in accordance with the mechanism "The Party leads, the working people serve as the collective masters, and the state manages," and increase the number of party committee members whose workers, female cadres, young cadres, and cadres with managerial ability.

The holding of party congresses at all levels is a broad and profound political activity which must be closely led and guided by the party committees, sections, sectors, and mass organizations before, during, and after the congresses are held. Especially, there must be meticulous preparations, the organization of incisive explanations, and specific implementation plans. Attention must be paid to ensuring the safety of the congresses, especially the defense of the party's lines and viewpoints.

Guidance of the congresses must be closely combined with the permanent tasks, especially the major, key tasks. The holding of conferences must be used to further the permanent tasks, and we must avoid concentrating on guiding the congresses while neglecting the permanent tasks. On the other hand, it is necessary to use guidance of the permanent tasks to stabilize the economic-social situation in preparation for the congresses.

The masses must be motivated to give rise to a seething, continuous, effective socialist emulation movement to achieve accomplishments to celebrate the Sixth Party Congress, the Ninth Municipal Party Organization Congress, and the congresses at their level, to enable the exciting, enthusiastic atmosphere of the congresses truly encompasses all political, economic, and social activities of the city, and to enable the new thought, new attitude, new work style, solidarity, unity, and determination to act of the congresses to profoundly effect economic-cultural and social life, and the daily sentiment and will to act of all people in the city and of all echelons, sectors, and organizations, with clear struggle goals and specific results in production, commerce and other work. All sectors, echelons, units, and individuals must have a project or a task to celebrate the Congress, especially results with regard to renovating the management mechanism, stepping up production, commerce, and home trade and foreign trade activities, achieving a high-yield 5th month-spring harvest, producing many new products to serve domestic consumption and exports, and transforming market management, stabilizing prices, and organizing living conditions.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR STRICT SELF-CRITICISM, CRITICISM

Hai Phong HAI PHONG in Vietnamese 28 Mar 86 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Carry Out Strict, Sharp Self-Criticism and Criticism With a Strong Sense of Responsibility"]

[Text] Carrying out the directive of the Secretariat of the Party Central committee, the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee recently issued a directive on carrying out self-criticism and criticism in the Party and on holding the Ninth Municipal Party Congress and party congresses at all levels.

That is an extremely important task, and vast and profound political activity of the municipal party organization. The party committee echelons and the sectors must provide close guidance and ensure high quality for the party congresses at all levels, and must first of all do a good job of organizing the self-criticism and criticism in the process of preparing for party congresses at all levels is to evaluate and gain experience from the tasks that have been carried out since the previous congresses, in order to increase the ability of the party to lead and organize the implementation of lines, strengthen unity with regard to thought and organization in the party, raise the level of cadres and party members, especially their ability with regard to economic management and state management, while at the same time reorganizing, correctly assigning cadres, and improving working methods. By means of self-criticism and criticism we can evaluate and observe cadres correctly and comprehensively, on the basis of which to create conditions for accurately selecting people to participate in party committee echelons in the future and to select delegates to the party congresses at all levels.

In order to do a good job of carrying out self-criticism and criticism, the echelons and sectors must, on the basis of the viewpoints and lines of the party, the resolution of the Fifth party Congress, the resolution of the eighth Municipal Party Organization Congress, the resolutions of the Party Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee, and the resolutions of their party organization echelon in order to review and evaluate the implementation results, point out the reasons for success or failure, and analyze the good points, deficiencies, and mistakes. With regard to the deficiencies, it is necessary to clearly determine the responsibility of each element and individual.

All party members and cadres in charge of the echelons and sectors on up must review the fulfillment of the missions and tasks assigned since the last Party Organization Congress. all individual party members must both pay attention to examining their adherence to the lines and viewpoints of the party and strictly take stock of their responsibility as party members, their consciousness of organization and discipline, their dynamism, creativity, and courage in organizing implementation, their concern for the lives of the people and the party building work, their revolutionary moral qualities and virtue, their work styles etc. In the present political activity campaign it is necessary to strictly criticize bureaucratism, sluggishness, laziness, subjectivity, the violation of party discipline and state laws, etc.

Self-criticism and criticism must be strict, sharp, self-enlightened, objective and truthful, and constructive and unifying. Self-criticism and criticism must help everyone increase their revolutionary offensive will to do a better job of fulfilling their missions in the future. The upper echelon must set a good example for the lower echelon and the leadership cadres must set a good example for the party members. In addition to self-criticism an criticism, corrective measures must be applied, clear transformation and progress must be created, and the confidence of the cadres, party members, and masses must be strengthened.

The organization of self-criticism and criticism throughout the party requires the echelons and sectors to carry out those tasks very urgently and complete them before April 1986, at a time when our municipality has many things to do, so the echelons and sectors must closely combine guidance of the permanent tasks, especially the key tasks, with guidance of the organization of self-criticism and criticism, hold party congresses at all level, use the good organization of congresses to further the permanent tasks, and not regard the permanent tasks lightly because of concentration on holding the congresses, but must use guidance of the permanent tasks to stabilize the economic-social situation and advance to holding the congresses.

The results of the self-criticism and criticism campaign in preparation for the party congresses at all levels will signify a new step toward maturization by the party and will give rise to a new spirit, new thought, a new spirit, new thought, a new style in the party, new confidence among the people, and determination to advance the enterprise of building and defending the socialist Fatherland and building and defending the municipality to the winning of many new victories.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

HO CHI MINH CITY OFFICIAL SPEAKS ON NEGATIVISM

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Speech by Nguyen Van Thuyen, a member of the Municipal Party Committee, Head of the Internal Affairs Section of the Municipal Party Committee, and Deputy Secretary of the Municipal People's Committee, at the Fourth Session of the Municipal People's Committee, Eighth Term, 9 and 10 May 1986: "Struggle Against Internal Negativism is a Very Urgent Requirement at Present"]

[Text] All of us acknowledge that since the municipality was liberated, especially since 1980, our municipality, carrying out the resolutions and directives of the Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, our municipality has taken many steps to prevent and fight against negative evils within the organs, mass organizations, and society.

By means of specific data and facts we can prove that at all times and in all places in which the struggle against negativism has attained results negativism, especially corruption, collusion, bribery, arrogance, and bullying the masses, has been limited and repulsed.

However, at present negativism in many forms is widespread in all spheres and is causing great harm in many respects, is causing considerable loss of state wealth, and is weakening the strength of the proletarian dictatorship and eroding the confidence of the masses in our regime. In comparison to the situation and the requirements, the results of the struggle against internal solidarity are still too small.

We will discuss below a number of things learned by research by the Internal Affairs Section of the Municipal Party Committee.

Harm Done By Negativism

At present, internal negativism, usually manifested specifically in the following specific forms, have caused inestimable harm:

1. It has reduced revolutionary ardor and the will to struggle to fulfill the revolutionary missions. The revolutionary ardor and struggle will of a considerable number of cadres and party members have declined, which has led to the lack of a sense of responsibility and a lack of consciousness toward

organization and discipline and not strictly carrying out the directives and resolutions of the party and the laws of the state. The situation of arbitrariness, partialism, laziness toward work, and not ensuring productivity, quality, and effectiveness has been very widespread.

In the sphere of managing materials, raw materials, fuel, grain, food products, etc., the lack of a sense of responsibility has resulted in damage, waste and losses and has caused extremely great harm, in some cases the loss of millions of dollars.

In the administrative sector, the situation of working halfheartedly, of work not being thoroughly resolved, or of not studying and investigating, has led to tasks being performed not in accordance with the truth and contrary to policies and laws, which has eroded the confidence of the people in the revolutionary administration.

2. The evils of administrative bureaucratism, arrogance, and seeking vengeance against and bullying the people and the lower echelon cadres and personnel. A number of cadres with positions and authority in the state apparatus, especially in the organs of authority, including a number of ordinary cadres and personnel, have abused their authority and acted contrary to the policies and allowed wealthy people to be exempted from the policies while poor workers are squeezed or oppressed, which adversely affects the superiority of socialism.

The evils of seeking vengeance against or bullying subordinate cadres and personnel and the people have caused considerable harm. There are even places in which factions have formed to seek vengeance against people who do not cooperate.

In 1985 the municipal inspection sector received 11,000 complaints, 18.3 percent of which concerned the following cases: illegal imprisonment (3.6 percent), forced expropriation of the people's property (13 percent), and illegal termination of work (1.7 percent).

3. Violating socialist property and deliberately acting contrary to policies for personal benefit and to accept bribes. Socialist property is seriously violated by means of many sophisticated, wily, and brazen forms and schemes.

Between the beginning of the implementation of Resolution No 128/HDBT of the Council of Ministers (September 1982) and the first quarter of 1985, according to incomplete statistics, the functional sectors discovered more than 3,000 incidents which cause losses amounting to more than 1 billion dong.

According to a report of the municipal public security sector, in 1985 there occurred 426 incidents which caused losses amounting to 2.71 million dong). Of 380 defendants, 222 were cadres, workers, or civil servants.

Of 400 investigations carried out in 1985 it was discovered that the amount of illegally obtained cash was 45.6 million dong (5.7 million of which were recovered). Of the violators 300, or 70 percent, were cadres with positions and authority.

A considerable number of production and commercial bases and organs which manage money, goods, and materials, hiding under the "three benefits" signboard, have deliberately violated policies, colluded with dishonest merchants and bad elements in society, and slipped state goods and materials to the unorganized market for the private merchants, speculators, and people engaged in illegal commerce, in order to take advantage of price disparities and share profits.

In October 1985 alone the people's procurator sector inspected 207 units of the small industry-handicrafts sector and uncovered 377 violations of law for personal profit, and had to recommend the disciplining of 103 cadres and personnel who had violated laws.

Between 1983 and the first quarter of 1985 the functional organ prosecuted 547 of 1,123 cases that were uncovered. Of the 1,277 defendants who were prosecuted, 81 were party members, 5 were directors or deputy directors, 66 bureau heads and deputy heads, and 722 cadres and personnel. The rest were dishonest merchants and bad elements in society.

It may be said that bribery is widespread and takes place in many sophisticated or brazen forms and in many spheres of life, especially in student recruitment, assigning jobs, population registration, military obligation fulfillment, the distribution of housing, tax collection, etc. In a considerable number of cases cadres, workers, and civil servants have accepted bribes to slip goods and materials to the speculators and black marketers in society, or accept bribes to cover up for or tolerate people who engage in illegal livelihoods.

It must be pointed out that the evil of bribery is usually accompanied by the evils of authoritarianism, bureaucratism, and arrogance. It corrupts cadres, harms the state management mechanism, renders ineffectual the policies and laws of the state, and causes a serious loss of confidence among the people.

The evil of gift-giving is also very dangerous. Normally, people who are engaged in illegal livelihoods, speculators, and sycophants use that form to create an "umbrella" in order to hide their crimes, or bullying the masses to attain their ugly goals. That form of negativism is also very widespread and serious, and is causing dissatisfaction internally and among the people.

4. Living a libertarian life and pursuing base individual pleasure. a considerable number of cadres, workers, and state civil servants, including a number of party members, due to a lack of moral steeling and failure to maintain their revolutionary virtue, have fallen victim to the luxurious, decadent way of life, unregulated conduct, drunkenness, dressing elegantly, and pursuing money, women, and all other kinds of material things, which leads to negativism and gradually to degeneracy and committing crimes and violations of party discipline and state laws.

Those things are sabotaging the prestige and name of our revolutionary party and state.

5. Negativism in the struggle against negativism. This is a case people with indifferent, unconcerned attitudes who shun the struggle against negativism. They are aloof and are not concerned with losses caused to materiel, people, and the prestige and name of the party and state. They dare not defend what is correct or struggle against what is incorrect.

That form of negativism is also very dangerous because it affects many people and directly supports the other negative evils. It leads to a fading of ideals and the gradual loss of the combative, revolutionary spirit of party members, cadres, workers, and civil servants in the revolutionary state. Furthermore, it will become a natural ally of the negative evils. It will not only prevent and repulse the negative evils but will unintentionally help them to increasingly develop.

That form of negativism will cause increasingly more serious consequences since some cadres with positions and important authority in party and state organs, who are and have been the sources of support allowing the negative evils to exist and develop, so that bad people can take advantage and run rampant despite public opinion and the law, and cause increasingly more serious harm. Public opinion is very dissatisfied and sometimes angry, but social opinion is not yet able to resolve that evil.

The Principal Reason for the Negative Situation

The situation of internal negativism still being widespread and serious, as discussed above, is due to many reasons, especially the imbalance between supply and demand, at a time when management is lax and provides many openings, thus creating conditions for negative phenomena to arise and develop.

2. The vestiges of the old regime are very serious, especially the negative manifestation of the way of life of pursuing unjust personal wealth and making money the highest principle of life, which have strongly affected the thought and sentiment of some party members, cadres, workers, and civil servants, and leads to the situation of widespread and serious negativism.

3. The ideological education cadres, party members, and the laboring people is still being regarded lightly and relaxed. Education is not accompanied by the economic and administrative measures. In places and at times there has been failure to strongly develop the collective mastership will and ability of the masses, to resolutely condemn negative phenomena, or to resolutely struggle to defend the truth and punish the criminal acts.

The situation of relaxation, weakness, and deficiency in ideological education and internal management has also led to the situation of some cadres and party members declining in moral quality and degenerating.

4. The work of economic organization and management and internal management is still beset with many weaknesses and deficiencies as resolutions 6, 7, and 8 of the Central Committee pointed out: "The situation of maintaining the bureaucratic-subsidizing mechanism, and serious conservatism and sluggishness, has been prolonged. There is dispersion with regard to organization and

discipline, localism, pursuing personal benefit, not resolutely stopping the situation of rightism, a serious lack of vigilance in the struggle between the two paths, a relaxation of the proletarian dictatorship, a relaxation of management in many regards, especially on the distribution-circulation front, failure to strictly apply laws, and the organizational and ideological work is still beset with many deficiencies." The consequences of the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy mechanism have created many openings for internal negativism to arise and develop.

Furthermore, in places and at times the management work has not been tight in a considerable number of organs and units, the mechanism of "the Party leading, the state managing, and the people serving as the masters" has not been effectively brought into play, and the situation of absolutism, dogmatism, creating division, and factionalism, is rather widespread.

In the sphere of struggling against internal negativism, the struggle is not yet deep and has not struck accurately and strongly against the licentious, degenerate people, or people who lack a sense of responsibility and cause serious consequences. In places there have even been instances of covering up for them. coordination in actions among the responsible sectors and organs is not yet tight, unified, and comprehensive.

5. An important reason is the destruction caused by the multifaceted war of destruction waged by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, in league with the U.S. imperialists, against the Vietnamese revolution. They have caused heavy damage to our people's economy, morale, virtue, and way of life.

But we do not yet fully understand that the struggle against negativism is part of the struggle against the two paths, and that it is at the same time part of the struggle against the enemy's multifaceted war of destruction.

6. The struggle against negativism is still beset with many deficiencies: in recent years the struggle against internal negativism has achieved many great, notable results, but has also revealed many shortcomings and deficiencies. The tasks, from taking the initiative to prevent internal negativism to grasping the situation, and investigating, uncovering, and disciplining, have not been carried out resolutely and thoroughly. Many people with negative conduct who must be struggled against and condemned have not yet been exposed, but have even been protected so that they can have conditions for abusing their power, living outside the control of the law, and continuing to commit crimes. Many people who have positively struggled against, uncovered, and denounced criminals have not been protected but have even been suppressed and bullied.

The "umbrella" evil has been condemned by public opinion because it is an important obstacle in the struggle against negativism. It has neutralized the positive factors in the movement against negativism.

The above-mentioned factors are related to and affect one another. But it must be emphasized that the struggle against internal negativism has not

attained high effectiveness because of our deficiencies and weaknesses in ideological education, in internal management, and in economic-social management, and because discipline and the law are not truly strict and fair.

Urgent Measures To Promote the Struggle Against Negativism

On the basis of analyzing and evaluating the struggle against negativism in recent years in our city, as discussed above, we recommend the following urgent measures to promote the struggle against negativism:

1. Stress political-ideological education:

It is necessary to pay all-out attention to political-ideological education:

It is necessary to pay all-out attention to political-ideological education and to enabling everyone to clearly understand:

a. The present difficulties and advantages of our country, in order to bolster confidence in the nation's future, preserve revolutionary ideals, and on that basis increase revolutionary ardor and the will to struggle, forge moral qualities, and maintain the revolutionary virtues of "diligence, integrity, and impartiality."

b. In order to successfully build socialism and strongly defend the Vietnamese Fatherland, the struggle against negativism cannot be regarded lightly.

It is necessary to affirm that the struggle against negativism is part of the struggle against the enemy's multifaceted war of destruction.

c. Cause everyone to clearly realize that negativism is sabotaging our people's beautiful, happy life.

The evil of negativism has inflicted much political, economic, and social damage on our country.

Therefore, it is necessary to affirm that the struggle against negativism is an urgent mission of the entire party, army, and population in the present situation.

2. Cause everyone to clearly realize that negativism is sabotaging our people's beautiful, happy life.

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2. It is necessary to strictly eliminate the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy administrative mechanism and rapidly perfect organization:

The prolongation of the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy administrative mechanism has resulted in many consequences which have impeded the progress of the great task of national construction. Resolutions 6, 7, and 8 of the Central Committee pointed out the shortcomings and deficiencies of that mechanism, while at the same time setting forth a direction and measures for overcoming them.

The Municipal People's Committee also concentrated on guiding the renovation of the mechanism.

Therefore, the elimination of the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy mechanism must be strictly implemented. But the present task of perfecting organization in all sectors and echelons must be based on a truly strict self-criticism and criticism campaign in order to objectively and correctly evaluate all party members, cadres, and personnel, on the basis of which to assign and deploy party members and ensure that those occupying leadership positions in the important elements and key links meet moral and ability standards.

It is necessary to be careful, but also to very boldly and resolutely eliminate from responsible positions party members and cadres who are lacking with regard to moral qualities and virtue, who engage in negative acts. When implementing the policy of reducing personnel staffing, it is first of all necessary to resolutely eliminate from the state apparatus party members, cadres, and personnel with negative acts and an authoritarian work style, who cause inconvenience for the people, and who lead a depraved, debauched way of life, and seriously violate the revolutionary work style and virtues.

The people's councils at all levels must not allow cadres who commit negative acts, who are degenerate, and who do not maintain revolutionary qualities and virtues to be elected to organs of authority, or dismiss them.

3. It is necessary to maintain strict party discipline and the fair and strict nature of the law:

At present there exists in the city a situation described by the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress: "There has been tardiness in strengthening the socialist legal code, laws and discipline have been relaxed, and the struggle against acts which violate the law and social evils lack resoluteness and thoroughness."

The prolongation of the situation of discipline and laws not being strict is also a factor which has limited the results of the struggle against negativism. Many legal documents of the state and many decisions of the Municipal People's Committee have not been strictly implemented or not implemented at all. There are even some instances in which law violators have been protected and true workers who protect the law are harassed and bullied. That situation has created an unusual social psychology, exerted and adverse influence, and reduced the confidence and revolutionary ardor of the people.

In the immediate future, we recommend concentration on the good resolution of the following two aspects:

1. Negative evils are seriously widespread and are tending to develop. Everyone knows that, but few negative people are exposed. Discipline and laws have been relaxed. Everyone complains, but then looks the other way.

Now, first of all it is necessary to strengthen management discipline. The echelons and sectors must coordinate closely with one another and resolutely not allow any negative act to go undetected or unpunished.

It is necessary to strictly forbid, promptly deal with, and closely monitor the various forms of gift giving of a "bribery" nature, which results in other negative evils.

2. We must resolutely condemn and struggle against all negative acts. At the same time, we must resolutely and bravely struggle against all negative acts and eliminate, by all means, the attitude of halfhearted struggle, which is spreading openly and extensively among everyone. By means of the strength of the entire mass movement, we must destroy the evil of "umbrella" protection, which is widespread and is an important impeding force. Due to the evil of "umbrella" protection, a considerable number of people have avoided punishment according to law and still live unmolested by means of illegitimate incomes and property. There are even people who receive raises and promotions and gain additional authority, then turn around and harass and bully the people who denounce them.

At this time, now more than ever, we must work together to resolutely maintain strict and fair party discipline and state laws; as well as the educational nature of the party and the laws of the state.

In order to fulfill our responsibility toward the party and the people, we respectfully recommend that the delegates, with their functions and authority within the sphere of work assigned to them by the party and the people, set forth the most urgent and effective measure, resolutely lead, guide, oversee, control, and supervise the implementation of the struggle to stop and repulse the evil of internal negativism in our city's social life.

We are confident that with the responsibility and conscience of a popularly elected organ, and with the determination of the people's committees at all levels, we will give rise to a strong struggle movement among all strata of people, cadres, workers, and civil servants, as well as among all party members in our city. In the immediate future, it is necessary to strongly motivate the people to contribute constructive opinions to the party and the governmental administration during the present criticism and self-criticism campaign.

We are certain to be fully capable of repulsing, restricting, and overcoming the negative phenomena in order to contribute worthily to fulfilling the two strategic revolutionary missions set forth by the party: successfully building socialism and strongly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

FORUM ON BUILDING DEMOCRATIC LIFESTYLE

Hanoi DAI DOAN KET in Vietnamese 9 Apr 86 pp 10, 6

[Article by Thu Phuong: "Forum: Building a Democratic Way of Life"]

[Text] Editor's note--To continue fostering the people's right to mastery, and zealously contribute to building a democratic way of life in society, DAI DOAN KET recently organized a forum with the participation of cadres from some legal agencies, sectors, and mass organizations to:

--Review past efforts at building a democratic lifestyle,

--Examine remaining obstacles and their origins, and

--Put forward suggestions and petitions.

Some statements at the forum are excerpted below.

Close Gap Between People and State (by Tran Quang Nhat, retired cadre, Van Chuong Subward, Hanoi)

It may be necessary to discuss the erosion of democracy in recent years despite the fact that the people and the state unanimously share the same views. As a result of that erosion, the bad is often mixed with the good, and sometimes it is the former that rules the roost.

In response to the situation, some people display indifference; others crippled by incompetence cannot distinguish between opportunism and the eagerness to be useful to society; and still others are led by pessimism and dissatisfaction into ideological debauchery, weak political awareness, empty talk, and across-the-board repudiation. Of course, those who do their utmost to tell the truth still exist.

In my opinion, the culprit is the lingering system of state subsidies and bureaucratic centralism. Another cause is the degeneration of some CPV members because the party is in power and because peace prevails. Since they are neither interested in self-discipline nor subject to control and

indoctrination, they are more inclined to stay away from the masses. Moreover, considerable procrastination and stagnation in solving offenses against democracy still mar state legal organs. The press has not yet become a dictatorial tool and has not really engaged in thorough criticism, still reserving ample space for achievements.

To redress that situation, I suggest the following:

The party, state and organs should strive--not only with words but with tangible deeds--to close as much as possible the gap between the people and the states and between cadres and those in the leadership. Some sectors and installations should discontinue nonessential official procedures to serve the people with maximum promptness. And the people's voice should reach the ears of the party and state as promptly as possible.

The party and state should stimulate the masses to criticize "revolutionary mandarins" in the ranks of state cadres from top to bottom. On that basis, they should purify the contingent of vocational and managerial cadres, protect the honest voices of honest people, and speedily solve lingering injustices and grievances.

To respect and achieve the people's right to mastery, the press should vigorously air their constructive criticisms, thus enabling the party, state, echelons, and sectors to know the truth and take remedial steps.

Citizen Sense of Self-mastery (by Nguyen Thi Tai, Department of Civil Affairs, Supreme People's Organ of Control)

I agree with the assessment that our democratic rights are being violated.

We specialized in solving denunciations regarding political security and penal and civil affairs. However, the solution process still appears as a big "fly in the ointment." The practice of referring petitions to a succession of organs without paying attention to them is widespread (for instance, one citizen has received not one answer to the 155 petitions sent out by him). But the main stumbling block resides not in a tainted judicial sector (bribery, gifts, etc.), but rather in a faulty managerial system and improper decentralization.

I would like to stress another aspect--the citizen's sense of self-mastery. In my judgment, this is highly necessary and important.

There are, for example, cases of wives hurting their rivals in a fit of jealousy, because of their inability to keep their countenances and address their matrimonial problems tactfully. These wives stand to "lose" their husbands anyway, and have to go to prison for aggravated assault and battery, thus leaving their children unattended.

The sense of self-mastery in each citizen must be raised even higher. This is an important measure designed to reduce attempts to violate democratic rights due to failing self-mastery and ignorance of the law.

It should be added that, at present, political propaganda and the indoctrination and dissemination of legal knowledge do not pan out very well. Mass organizations should pay more attention to that endeavor.

Heighten the Role of the Fatherland Front (by Do Huy Thuc, Legal Affairs Department, Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee)

Since our country is laboring under difficulties, I believe it is emphatically important to build a socialist democratic way of life. If this is not properly done, we will lack strength and can neither foster enthusiasm nor mobilize the entire society to carry out more demanding tasks.

To those ideas expressed by my comrades on some causes for the ongoing erosion of democracy, I would like to add mine. In a system led by the party, managed by the state, and owned by the people, the administration is a major body that should be managed according to democratic principles, and government officials should reflect most clearly the democratic nature of society; instead, due to inadequate indoctrination, some people have given free rein to a penchant for authoritarianism and arrogance.

As far as the people are concerned, building a democracy is in itself an extremely arduous revolution requiring all of them to do their utmost. Currently, the government is ours, but the people still lack the necessary knowledge and habit of fostering democratic attributes in an organized manner. Millions of people's hands, brains, and eye are needed everywhere in the nation to control and help the party and state build society.

Since it is the broadest social organization and a link between the people and the party, the Fatherland Front should play a great role, that of fostering the people's right to collective mastery. In concrete terms, it should use various extensive forms of propaganda to acquaint citizens with their prerogatives and obligations, as mandated by law. In return, its basic organizations can fathom the people's suggestions and aspirations and help them zealously build society and the new man.

By doing so, the Front's installations can help million of citizens assist the party and state in battling authoritarianism, bureaucratism, and aloofness from the masses.

"Do You Take up Higher Studies in Order To Quit Teaching?" (by Trinh Thi Bich Ba, Trung Vuong General School)

As a general-school teacher, I heartily welcome the broad exchange of views held by DAI DOAN KET on a democratic lifestyle, with numerous readers participating. In our opinion, this issue provides abundant food for thought.

There is no erosion of democracy in the teachers' lives at my school, because it is located in the heart of the city and is an outstanding progressive institution. Its teachers are united, share the same views, and are eager to foster their right to collective mastery in all academic activities.

But, at other schools, even those in the Hanoi suburbs and within the city, the practice of harassing teachers, misapplying policies and procedures toward teachers, and violating the right to mastery in the educational sector exists. Although I do not want to mention specific cases, I must say that some of these abuses are rather serious. But even if no violations have been committed, teachers are still unable to master their own destinies. Item: Teachers are supposedly entitled to supplementary education; nevertheless, as general-school teachers, we are permitted only to attend vocational training courses and schools held by the sector, from which those with "standard" degrees (for instance, a teachers college degree for grade-II instructors) are excluded to make room for "substandard" teachers. And it is out of the question for us to enroll in out-of-sector studies (for example, to sign up for a university correspondence program, etc.) As far as I know, in other countries general-school, kindergarten, and primary-school teachers are allowed to prepare theses for high diplomas and conduct research, etc., provided that they are willing to move forward while fulfilling their duties. Our educational sector creates no conditions for teachers to master themselves and move ahead. Those applying for higher studies would hear the following response: "Do you take up higher studies in order to quit teaching? Then, what about the student's "right" to mastery at school? And what "rights" do teachers have in dealing with students and parents. A multitude of problems relating to that right still affects our schools. Many people believe that schools and teachers often treat students in an "authoritarian" and "repressive" way. However, we teachers sometimes feel incapable, even having no authority to punish students for negative activities, since we are authorized only to educate and persuade them, and "invite" them to study and promote them to upper classes--a privilege of which they are not worthy.

My comrades said that widespread violations of the right to mastery stem from aberrations in the organization, structure, and policies of society. Serious aberrations create conditions in which negative phenomena can germinate and develop. Hence, the structure, policies, and organization should be redressed. I agree with that view, but I think we should pay more attention to educating people about the sense of mastery. In fact, the sense of mastery calls for respect for human dignity and a proper relationship between individuals and society. If we lack that sense, we will infringe upon the democratic rights of others, or let our own democratic rights be violated. While observing negative phenomena and abuses of democratic rights in life, I usually give much thought to that problem. Then I realize with added strength that the task of educating and training the new man is extremely important.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

UNIT PRAISED FOR EFFECTIVE CRITICISM SESSION

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 May 86 p 2

[Article by Vu Manh Tuong: "An Effective Criticism Meeting"]

[Text] I arrived to begin work at border defense post 04 in province T at a time when the party chapter was holding a criticism and self-criticism meeting under the guidance of the upper-echelon party committee. During several consecutive sessions the party members criticized themselves and brought out all of their good points and deficiencies. After Captain H, deputy commander of the post, completed his self-criticism the post commander contributed the following opinion:

"So that the party chapter can correctly evaluate the deficiencies of deputy post commander H, I would like to further discuss several points. Comrade H was assigned responsibility for the unit's rear services. In the course of an investigation we discovered that many expenditures were contrary to principles, and that there were no documents or invoices for thousands of dong. On his own accord he sold two tons of fish that had been caught by the unit to a private merchant at prices two or three times higher, but the sale was recorded in the books at state commercial prices, so where did the difference go? What was it spent on? Secondly, in managing the unit's technical facilities and materials he was very arbitrary and irresponsible. After the boat returned from patrol he did not organize the men to repair it, but allowed it to remain ashore for months, so that it was damaged by wood borers and rust, which cost the state treasury thousands of dong."

As soon as the post commander finished speaking the party chapter secretary immediately contributed an opinion:

"I believe that the party organization and all of us party members had a part in comrade H's deficiency. Why, when we knew that comrade H was spending irresponsibly, did we not investigate and make corrections immediately, but allowed the situation to continue all year? The party chapter resolution called for open monthly economic meetings to review the fish harvest and fish sauce production, but we failed to do so. In part, it was because we gave comrade H a blank check, and in part because we didn't want to rock the boat. As for his selling two tons of fish to the outside, comrade H was entirely incorrect and the party chapter must apply appropriate discipline."

The secretary continued:

"The party chapter resolution at the beginning of the year stated that the fish caught by the unit must be sold to the state, in exchange for such goods as nets, light bulbs, fishing equipment, etc., in order to serve production. Comrade H abused his authority in acting contrary to the party chapter resolution. Did he not know that doing so helped the dishonest merchants disrupt the market? His maintenance of weapons and technical equipment and the damage done to the patrol boat, which cost the public budget thousand of dong, were direct deficiencies of comrade H, but then were deficiencies of the commander, who failed to exercise supervision and control and did not bring into play the role of the broad masses in mastering facilities and materials.

Following the opinion of the secretary, many other party members analyzed the reasons for the mistakes of deputy post commander H and discussed corrective measures. The upper-echelon representative who monitored the criticism and self-criticism meeting of the party chapter of post 04 contributed his opinions to the party chapter.

With regard to the deficiencies of comrade H, the party chapter's analysis was very clear. In my opinion, the reasons for those deficiencies were that H refused to discipline and cultivate himself but allowed money to control his actions, which led to a decline in his moral quality and ability, to his working haphazardly and carelessly, and to his making expenditures contrary to principles. Objectively, it must also be realized that the party chapter, the party chapter committee, and the commander did not investigate and apply prompt corrective measures. The party chapter issued a resolution but it was not enforced. It did not investigate to find out what had been done and what had not been done, and allowed deficiencies to continue for years on end. That is also a reason why H feel deeply into mistakes. Thus all of us party members must strictly criticize ourselves.

Finally, the party chapter passed a unanimous resolution calling for the elimination of that situation. First of all, the post needed to set up an "economic committee" to monitor the money, documents, receipts, and expenditures of comrade H, who had to make reimbursement for improper expenditures. For selling two tons of fish on the outside, comrade H had to appear before the military council for criticism and recovery of the price differential. Second, from then on the party chapter would permanently maintain the system of weekly party cell meetings and monthly party days to carry out criticism and self-criticism in a practical manner in order to strengthen internal solidarity in the party and promptly correct errors. Third, the border defense post should not keep such a large sum of money, but only a small amount, as determined by the upper echelon. Every month it had to report on its funds to the upper echelon financial officer in order to unify expenditures.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

HANOI DISTRICT CARRIES OUT SELF-CRITICISM, CRITICISM

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Jun 86 pp 3, 4

[Party Building column by Hoang Trung: "Thanh Tri Party Committee Carries Out Self-Criticism and Criticism"]

[Text] The party committee of Thanh Tri District in Hanoi selected the party organizations of Yen So village, the district public security police, the grain corporation, and the food products corporation as models in carrying out the first self-criticism and criticism cycle and gain experience in order to provide common guidance and, by that means, investigate and evaluate the moral quality, leadership style, and cadre policy of the district party committee.

Looking Directly at the Truth

For many consecutive years Yen Son had been an agricultural cooperative in the municipality of Hanoi that was outstanding in many respects. Every year the cooperative sold to the municipal commercial sector between 360 and nearly 500 tons of fish and 116 tons of pork and the lives of the people had been improved. Yen So's party organization was strong. Recently its movement had declined in many respects. Its production was developing slowly and its commodity production was at a low level. The collective material-technical bases were in poor condition. Many cooperative members had abandoned collective labor. Many instances of land encroachment and corruption had occurred in the cooperative. The masses were very worried and perplexed. Why did negative phenomena arise in a unit which had always been a leading flag in the district?

The village party organization meeting was attended by 137 party members. With a serious attitude of looking directly at the truth, the village party organization made clear that the weaknesses and deficiencies of Yen So resulted from the manifestations of decline with regard to the virtue and way of life of the cadres, especially on the part of cadres with authority. There were a number of opinions criticizing the village chairman for encroaching on collective land. The director and assistant director of the cooperative grew private rice in a water catchment area and flooded tens of hectares of rice of another cooperative. Many party members were seriously affected by an attitude of seeking personal profit and paid little attention to the interests of the collective and the state. Fish, a major source of income of the

village, brings in tens of millions of dong every year. That sector also had a rather high income level in comparison to the agricultural production sector. Many leadership cadres in the village had brought their family members into the fishing units and looked the other way when those units sold fish to private merchants. On days when fish were brought in many cooperative members became small merchants, including a number of key cadres, who used their vehicles to take their wives to sell fish. The revolutionary will of many party members declined, which led to the situation of relaxing management, violating party discipline, and adversely affecting internal solidarity and the confidence of the masses in the party organization, which was no longer as it had been in the past. Those were the reasons why the party organization could not fulfill its political missions. In 1985 the Yen So cooperative produced 570 tons of fish but sold only 17 tons to the state. There were many reasons for that decline, including the relaxation of party activities and regarding lightly ideological education and the management of party members.

Because of the Yen So party organization and by means of the trial self-criticism and criticism campaign, the Thanh Tri party committee was profoundly aware that when revolutionary moral qualities are weak and deficient and fighting will declines there are many deficiencies in the leadership and work styles of cadres. The deficiencies and mistakes of the Yen So party organization were not representative of all party organizations in Thanh tri District. But the actual situation in a unit that had always been an advanced unit with a strong party organization, such as Yen So, posed troublesome problems which forced the Thanh Tri District party committee to look directly at the truth and correctly evaluate the moral qualities, and leadership and work styles, of its cadres.

An Outstanding Problem

Under the conditions of continual natural disasters, and complicated market changes, Thanh Tri District has remained stalwart, maintained production, shown concern for the lives of the masses, done a good job of fulfilling its obligations to the state, and maintained political security and order and public safety. Many comrades in the district party committee have wholesome ways of life. But with a strict attitude of self-criticism the district party committee deeply reviewed its deficiencies with regard to moral qualities, which were manifested specifically in a weakened sense of responsibility, the pursuit of individual interests, and the purchasing of imported motorbicycles and a number of other high-level consumer goods at "internal distribution" prices. Within a short period of time some comrades brought their wives and children from rural areas and found them employment in state organs, or receive allowances from the state but still do not move their residence. Although those deficiencies regarding special privilege were not prevalent in the district party committee, they exerted an adverse influence and weakened the confidence of the masses.

The moral quality and leadership of the district party committee directly affected the basic level. Many party members in the basic party organizations neglected the missions assigned them and lacked a sense of organization and discipline in implementing the policies and resolutions of the Party. Some 30

percent of the cooperatives did not fulfill their obligation to sell grain and food products to the state. The evils of land encroachment, building houses on the "five percent land," and illegally producing bricks are quite widespread in many villages. Many party members and a number of party committee members have also committed such violations (in Ngoc Hoi, Dai Ang, Linh Nam, Vinh Tuy, Dinh Cong, etc.) The evils of wasteful parties, funerals and weddings of a superstitious nature, and gambling, still occur in many places. Partialistic, local thinking by the villages, cooperatives, and villages have caused a prolongation of the loss of internal solidarity. Some cadres and party members in leadership positions have also expropriated circulating capital belonging to the collective and selected good, nearby fields when accepting contracted-out production. The party members did not play an exemplary vanguard role, which led to the situation of owing money and grain to the cooperatives being very widespread in the villages. A considerable number of key cadres in the sectors, corporations, and enterprises took advantage of shortcomings in management to take state materials in order to sell them and take advantage of price differences. Many economic units arbitrarily set prices and contributed to upsetting the market. In the distribution-circulation sector the phenomena of internal distribution and collusion with private merchants, even by party members, were widespread. The educational and cultural sectors pursued monetary value and arbitrarily imposed fees, which caused trouble for the people.

The district party committee's work style was still heavily characterized by official documents and paperwork, many meetings, and wasted effort, and its efficiency was low. Its leadership style was bureaucratic, fear of difficulty, and remoteness from the actual situation, which adversely affected the basic-level cadres, and it still had the habits of commandism, not making truthful reports, being arrogant and paternalistic, and violating the mastership right of the masses.

There were also many deficiencies in the implementation of the cadre policy. There were many instances of irrational assignment and use, and especially there was still rightism and avoidance in dealing with violations of party discipline and state laws.

An outstanding problem of the party organization of Thanh Tri District was that the revolutionary morality and fighting will of the cadres and party members declined and they had a strong attitude of seeking personal profit and looking out for themselves and their families, but with regard to the district party committee collectively a matter worthy of concern was its leadership style, which was characterized by a lack of a sense of responsibility, aloofness from the actual situation, a lack of dynamism and creativity, and a lack of responsiveness toward the lives of the masses.

Correcting Mistakes as They Happen

The experience of Thanh Tri District is that self-criticism and criticism are equally important and neither should be neglected. Even more important, it took steps to develop the good points and correct the deficiencies. First of all, the district party committee drafted specific work rules and relationships between the party and the governmental administrations at the

district and basic levels. The entire district held party chapter meetings on the 3rd and 19th of each month, as well as carrying out regular self-criticism and criticism. The deficiencies that could be corrected immediately were corrected immediately. After the self-criticism and criticism campaign all party members had to accept the missions assigned them, depending on the ability, health, and specific conditions of each person. A survey was taken of the land illegally taken over by cadres and party members and the rice owed the collective in order to take resolute corrective steps. Beginning with this year's spring season there could be no additional debts and the masses categorized families with regard to their ability to pay in order to take steps to collect monetary and grain debts beginning with that season. The apparatus was improved along the lines of reducing the administrative overhead and replacing cadres who were weak and deficient with regard to moral quality and ability. In the case of wives and children who had been employed by the state, investigations had to be made and when standards had been violated they had to be dismissed from the organ immediately. Units without commercial functions were forbidden to do business. The enterprises had to turn over all products to the state. Bonus funds had to be used as stipulated and public funds could not be used for gift giving contrary to principles. The internal distribution of goods at low prices had to be ended immediately. Cadres who were allowed to buy imported motorbicycles had to pay for them according to the market price at that time. Anyone unable to do so had to return the motorbicycle. The district party committee also stipulated standards regarding the use of work facilities, reviewed the recruitment and use of labor, the recruitment of students, and sending people abroad. If any irregularities were uncovered they had to be corrected immediately. The district party committee also set forth specific measures for the comrades in charge of the district sectors and the district party committee who are sent to work in the villages, enterprises, and bases.

The slogan set forth by the district party committee was that the comrades with high positions should correct their mistakes first, then the party members. The results of self-criticism and criticism by each echelon and sector had to be made public to the masses.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

HANDLING OF PARTY DISCIPLINE CASE CRITICIZED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 May 86 p 2

[Article by Trinh Van Dung: "Absolved of Guilt But Still Sad"]

[Text] I have just learned a lesson, that was both good and bad, about criticism that is correct and good, one that is truly hard to forget. It was something that happened several years ago between me and comrade C, the military commander and a member of my unit's party chapter committee.

At that time I was not yet a party member. Relations between commander C and myself were normal. The commander had good points, such as being hard-working and diligent, and was very disciplined and punctual. But gradually, over a long period of time, I noted that the commander had a number of rather important deficiencies: he competed for merit, made false reports to the upper echelon, was paternalistic and harsh, and wanted everyone to obey him absolutely (the lower echelon, of course).

Once, because I was directly affected I, criticized the commander for those bad habits, and presented rather specific evidence. The commander stared at me and his face paled, which startled me. From then on, he was very cold toward me. After the cold phase he entered a new phase and began to get after me. When the party chapter met to consider making me a candidate for admission into the party, only commander C disagreed. He brought out a deficiency I had 6 or 7 years previously in my old unit and tried to prove that I had not fully corrected that deficiency. He also called me in to "warn" me about that matter. I was very angry and said to his face that he wanted to pin something on me and was prejudiced toward me, and that if he continued to have that attitude no one who had ever had a deficiency could make progress while under his command. Commander C was very angry and criticized me for being "discourteous and rude."

After that the commander picked on me for every little thing and if I made the slightest slip-up he would "blow it up out of proportion" immediately. This attitude toward me became increasingly harsh.

I did a lot of thinking and intended to report to the branch committee or the upper echelon so that I could meet with commander C and straighten things out. But ultimately I decided not to. To be truthful, I was timid, for my

"adversary" was a commander who was also a party branch committee member. I was afraid of jeopardizing my application for party membership, and was also afraid of many other things. Thus "the plant didn't want to be disturbed but the wind wouldn't stop blowing." Commander C continued to seek ways to prevent me from entering the party. But his efforts were not very effective because he was unable to prove that I had a specific deficiency. Most of the party members in the party chapter still agreed with the recommendation that I be admitted to the party.

At that time an anonymous letter was received which falsely accused me of a number of bad things. Everyone was astonished when they learned, after an investigation, that the author of that anonymous letter was none other than commander C ! Of course, comrade C had to submit to thorough criticism, was disciplined, and was transferred to another unit.

I was absolved of wrongdoing and a little later was admitted into the Party. I should have been pleased but inwardly I was very sad. I was not only sad then, but am still sad. I had thoughts about incorrect acts in struggling against and criticizing a commander, a comrade, and a fellow unit member. At first, I criticized the incorrect acts of comrade C, although defensively and passively. Later, when under strong pressure, I retreated. I should have struggled against comrade C in an organized and resolute manner, but with reason and sentiment. That is a requirement of the party branch committee or upper-echelon party committee serving as a referee between me and comrade C. If I dared do so it was certain that the contradiction would have been better resolved and perhaps that anonymous letter would not have been sent. Furthermore, I felt very sorry for comrade C. Although he was a party member and a commander with a relatively great deal of experience, because of a serious case of individualism he acted contrary to revolutionary virtue.

I think that in the present self-criticism and criticism campaign we must be on guard against, uncover, struggle against, and eliminate two diseases: the first, my disease, arises from individual benefit and a lack of courage in struggle. The second is the disease of comrade C who, because he was heavily influenced by individualism, applied pressure against someone who criticized him and even used the ugliest methods.

If allowed to continue to exist, those two diseases will be very great impediments to our self-criticism and criticism campaign.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

HANOI GRAIN SECTOR CORRECTS DEFICIENCIES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Jun 86 pp 3, 4

[Party Building column by Hoang Trung: "Results of Criticism: Hanoi Municipal Grain Sector Immediately Corrects Deficiencies in Distribution"]

[Text] Recently, within a short period of time, the newspaper NHAN DAN has received more than 1,000 letters from readers, who have contributed many opinions about the self-criticism and criticism campaign in the party.

The newspaper NHAN DAN would like to sincerely thank all of its dear readers who expressed profound concern and contributed enthusiastically to the important party activity campaign. Our newspaper has published a number of the letters and opinions. We have sent the other letters to the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee.

The self-criticism and criticism campaign is being expanded at all echelons and in all sectors, and in the basic party organizations. In this column we will publish the results of criticism and self-criticism, the practical, specific deeds in various places which were intended to develop the good points, overcome the deficiencies, and contribute positively to building the party and doing a good job of implementing the urgent missions to achieve accomplishments to serve the Sixth Party Congress.

The Hanoi Municipal Grain Service has carried out self-criticism and criticism throughout the sector. During the past 5 years, under the conditions of the economy still experiencing many major imbalances, and many difficulties being encountered in grain production, the entire municipal grain sector has made many all-out efforts to ensure grain to meet the needs of rationing and the supply standards of cadres, workers, and members of the armed forces, and to meet part of the needs of public restaurants and serve animal husbandry in the capital. Some cadres and party members have maintained a wholesome way of life, are conscious of organization and discipline, and have a sense of responsibility toward the common endeavor. A number of units, such as the grain corporation of Hoan Kiem Ward, the Chua Boc Wheat Enterprise, and a number of stores in the inner city have undergone a good transformation in service and in conducting business in the spirit of Resolution 8 of the party Central Committee.

Problems of a Widespread Nature

The conference of key cadres of the bureaus and the directors of ward and district grain corporations in the municipality carried out strict self-criticism and analyzed the weaknesses and deficiencies within their ranks, which in some respects have become more serious, especially the sense of responsibility toward the lives of the masses. That phenomenon is quite widespread among cadres at the basic level and in the stores, and is manifested concretely in very low labor productivity and effectiveness, especially on the part of indirect labor. In the leadership ranks, the attitude of waiting for orders, being overly dependent, and halfheartedness, and the attitudes of conservatism and sluggishness, are rather prevalent. The bureau director has not applied prompt measures to overcome negative phenomena which continually arise in the transportation, shipping, and receiving of grain. The commercial and professional management offices are still heavily characterized by a subsidizing attitude and lack dynamism and agility in life. A number of units have prolonged the situation of a lack of internal solidarity, and in some places that situation is serious (such as the Grain Corporation of the city of Son Tay, the Nghia Do Grain Processing Enterprise, the housing repair enterprise, etc.). The situation of lax management has arisen. A considerable number of cadres, personnel, and civil servants who receive goods, sell goods, drive trucks, and keep warehouses use many tricks to steal materials and grain, especially during transportation and when goods are received at warehouses. That negative situation is serious. It has not only caused great harm to the state but has caused some grain cadres and reduced the confidence masses.

An outstanding weakness in the leadership style of the Hanoi grain sector is that there is still much confusion when shifting over to economic accounting, and the management style of nearly all directors is still old-fashioned and does not yet fully manifest the work style of directors according to the new mechanism. That weaknesses is manifested rather clearly in directors not paying adequate attention to guiding production costs in the enterprises, not paying attention to reducing circulation expenses, reducing waste, etc. The administrative management work of the sector, such as distribution and regulation, has not improved and still creates much trouble for customers. That is manifested rather clearly in the Gia Lam, Thanh Tri, Phuc Tho, and Son Tay City grain corporations.

The sector's cadre work has not been closely combined with its political mission, and the quality and effectiveness of service and commerce are not the bases for evaluating personnel and the use of cadres.

An outstanding, widespread problem is that nearly all cadres, party members, and personnel in the sector take their rice first and select good-quality rice to purchase for themselves and their families, relatives, and friends. Even though they do not have rice ration booklets in the places where they work, the people in the sector are still able to buy rice before the others. Even more serious, many personnel who sell and receive goods use high-quality rice to exchange with the other sectors, slip rice to merchants to profit from the price disparity, which upsets the market, underweigh the rice sold to customers, and take the rice left over at the granaries. The attitude of

sales clerks is one of arrogance. They do not begin to sell their goods until several hours after opening the store, thus forcing the people to wait, or are rude and sullen toward the customers.

Corrective Measures

After carrying out self-criticism and criticism the party committee and director of the Hanoi Municipal Grain Service set forth measures to correct the deficiencies and regarded that as a very important requirement for developing the effectiveness of self-criticism and criticism in order to promote all aspects of its work, first of all to strengthen the spirit of doing a good job of serving the people. The grain enterprises and corporations of the wards and districts must take corrective steps after carrying out self-criticism and criticism. The guidance spirit of the service is to take urgent and strict corrective action. When a mistake has been made and can be corrected it should be corrected immediately, without hesitation. An urgent problem of the Hanoi municipal grain sector is to make immediate corrective action in distribution and service, in order to attain the goal of fair, convenient distribution. That requires the implementation of many important tasks, such as purchasing and receiving goods, promoting processing, expanding commerce, opposing negative phenomena, strengthening management, consolidating organization, and reorganizing cadres along the lines of reducing administrative personnel and indirect labor.

The director of the Service has decided upon a number of measures to correct deficiencies and requests its offices and those of the wards and districts to concentrate their guidance on ensuring fair and convenient distribution, especially in the inner-city stores.

Beginning on 10 August 1986 the Hanoi municipal grain sector will apply the following measures:

1. Opening and closing stores at the times stipulated by the upper echelon, and goods will be sold as soon as the store is opened. The goods-selling times will be observed, stores will not be opened late and there will be no prolonged lunch breaks or quitting early.

Depending on the conditions, it is possible to apply many forms for the customers. Ordinary sales will be made at the stalls, sales at stalls will be sold in accordance with priority books, and money, bags, and ration booklets will be sent to the store and appointments will be made to pick up the goods later. goods will be sold at the houses of some families which come under the policy, such as the families of war dead and disabled veterans, headless families, and families of cadres with merit toward the revolution. Rice will be taken to sell at colleges and vocational middle schools.

The corporations will review the store cadres, sales clerks, and warehouse keepers, especially in the weak and deficient bases. Those who do not have sufficient moral quality or are not sufficiently trustworthy should not be used to distribute grain.

The corporations must tie in distribution at the stores with the assistance and supervision of the subward governmental administration and party committee. It is necessary to regularly solicit the opinions of party members, cadres, and the people about the service attitudes and quality of the grain stores.

2. The rice stalls must display samples of their goods and the prices of each type of grain. They must sell the correct type at the correct price, weigh the grain honestly, and ensure fair distribution.

If the grain sold is not what the customer ordered the store must exchange the grain if so requested by the customer.

The customer may weigh the grain at the store. If the grain has been underweighed the store must make up the difference.

3. When receiving customers and making sales, the cadre and personnel of the grain sector must:

Have a conciliatory, modest attitude toward the customers.

Wear work clothes with badges which give the person's name in order to facilitate business with the customers and supervision by the masses. (Recently, when soliciting the opinions of customers the customers have often made the complaint that "a fat girl" or a "thin girl" had done something wrong, but they don't know their names).

4. The stores and personnel are forbidden to set aside high-quality rice for their friends, or use high-quality rice to make deals for personal profit.

Furthermore, the Municipal Grain Service has also decided upon a number of measures to overcome the negative phenomena in shipping, receiving, and transporting grain.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

PEOPLE OF DONG HOA VILLAGE COMPLAIN ABOUT ABUSES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Jun 86 p 3

[Article by Duy Ha: "Opinions of the People of Dong Hoa Village"]

[Text] As requested by our friend Duy Hoa, of Dong Hoa village (in Dong Hung District, now part of Thai Binh City), we are publishing this article in hopes that the party committee of Thai Binh Province will investigate and reach conclusions so that they can be made public by the party newspaper in the spirit of the Secretariat vis-a-vis self-criticism and criticism.

Under the light of the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress, the party organization and people of Dong Hoa have endeavored to create a village with an all-round movement, one which is visited by people from all over the nation. Its rice yield is about nine tons of paddy per hectare. Its movements to raise fish, raise silkworms, and build up the family economy have developed strongly. The village road has been paved with gravel. The appearance of the countryside has improved. It rapidly and efficiently fulfills its grain and food products obligations.

But a number of cadres if the village people's committee and cooperative management cadres were corrupt, colluded, accepted bribes, and led debauched lives. The party organization and people of Dong Ha have made complaints since November 1985 but the upper echelon has not taken any clear action.

I would like to present as examples several major incidents. During the 1985 10th month season the people uncovered the sale of more than 70,000 points. The management board had to admit that to the party organization and recover 51,740 points. Six dining areas had been built, purportedly to receive guests. The people made the accusation that one of them, in the cooperative office, spent 258,000 dong during the last 3 months of 1985. The leadership there had to admit that it had spent 226,000 dong and bought 350 kilograms of rice. A party member in Unit 14 who did not receive contracted-out land obtained public rice, according to invoices 6,900 kilograms of its, for consumption and gift-giving, and received 9,100 points to hire a worker. The head of Unit 2 obtained a rice authorization for 7,044 kilos to "pay rice to cooperative members." The people discovered that the declaration was irregular. The 9-month ration for day-care children was 6,535 kilograms but an investigation revealed that the children ate less than half of that rice.

That is not to mention dozens of breeding hogs that are taken away every year and 957 kilograms of live pork given as Tet gifts. Of the three tons of pond fish distributed to the people, 995 kilos of carp were presented as gifts. During the 1983-1985 3-year period the province invested 1.8 million dong in organizing the growing of litchi but the cooperative invested only 400 million dong (equal to 2.2 million old dong) to buy 41,684 litchi cuttings. In fact, an investigation showed that the collective planted 2,263 hillocks, each of which was planted with 6,789 cuttings (6,125 of which lived), while the family sector reportedly planted 7,684 plants totaling 14,473 cuttings. In comparison to the invoice, there was a shortfall of about 20,000 cuttings. A truck trip was contracted for at 55,660 dong but it did not transport the plants. Dried litchi and honey were purchased and 38,000 dong were divided. An invoice for 12,900 dong worth of meat to serve guests was counterfeited. There was collusion with a barge on the Tra Ly River to purchase 600 steel bars, 90 cubic meters of rock, and 70 cubic meters of yellow sand for internal distribution, to build houses, and to sell on the outside. During the past 3 years, 10 cadres' houses were built on pond beds and low-lying land. Furthermore, bricks, tile, lime, sand, cement, steel, and doors were brought in and civilian labor was used to build houses for a number of cadres who made deals. They decided the upper echelon and tricked the lower echelon. When the people consumed 10 to 12 kilos a month they reported that they consumed 21 kilos a month. In 1985 10,985 kilos of fish were caught but the catch was reported as 38 tons. The village had only three hectares of mulberry but reported 12 hectares. The rock purchased on the sly from the barge to spread on 7,500 meters of road was reported as having been obtained at the Ninh Binh limestone mountain, etc.

The party organization and people of Dong Hoa have put up with hardships and worked diligently and economically to build their home area and country, but cannot accept the excessive negative phenomena and the expropriation of their collective mastership right. They are correct in struggling to defend are correct in struggling to defend the prestige of the party. During the past 6 months the upper echelon has resolved a number of improper actions and lax discipline, and has reached the conclusion that some party members have exaggerated and sabotaged the village's movement.

By means of the party newspaper, we hope that the competent echelons and sectors apply Directive 79 of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee in Dong Hoa village objectively, impartially, and faithfully in order to illuminate the struggle movement of the party organization and people in the village, and bring about absolute confidence by the masses in the party before holding party congresses at all levels.

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

WRITER: ALLOW PEOPLE TO VOTE FOR CANDIDATES OF CHOICE

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 11 May 86 p 1

[Contribute to the Party Congress column]

[Text] Hold Genuine Elections

The party's line and policy is to manifest the people's ownership rights. But some places have not implemented this policy correctly. For example, in electing neighborhood team management committees, the choices open to the people have been limited. In these elections, the people's only task has been to show up in large numbers and vote for the people selected by the authorities, regardless of whether or not these people will be able to serve the people. The only thing that is important is that these people are agreeable to the authorities. As for those people whom the people like, the people in authority advance many reasons and find ways to exclude them. The people are very tired of this way of staging elections. They participate in elections only for form's sake, because they don't have the right to vote for whom they want. In one election to the Ward Protection Committee, the candidates were all selected by the subward public security forces. The election was carried out quite well under the guidance of ward public security personnel. The deputy subward security chiefs participated and monitored the election. After the election, reports were prepared stating that everyone was enthusiastic about the composition of the new Ward Protection Committee. But only a short time later, people went and told the subward authorities that some members of the new committee had once worked for the old system. These people did not understand that the backgrounds of each of those on the committee had been checked carefully. Furthermore, all of the candidates had been encouraged personally by ward security personnel. They were selected because they had a lofty spirit of revolutionary consciousness and because they met the requirements of the public security sector, not because of their power or position. In this city, almost every family was "involved" with the old system in one way or another. But shouldn't each person be judged on his participation and on his contribution and spirit of revolutionary awareness since liberation? If involvement with the old system is used as the selection criteria for launching the masses, we will never be able to build socialism. In the end, the election results were voided partially, and the election rights of the people were limited. The people criticized the primary-level authorities because they felt that the authorities had encroached on their

democratic freedoms. In the end, this just benefited the enemy, who is always watching for weaknesses that can be used to distort things.

Based on the above, I hope that the primary-level officials show responsibility concerning the ownership rights of the people based on the lines and policies of the party. Conditions must be created to enable the people to get near the party and to enable the party to get near the people. If this is done, the party will understand the ideas of the people, and the people will show revolutionary zeal in building socialism. (Nguyen Van Ke, Precinct 10)

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PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

LABOR NEWSPAPER STARTS PARTY BUILDING COLUMN

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 22 May 86 p 4

[Workers' Mailbox on Party Building column]

[Text] During a meeting with representatives of labor, workers, and trade unions in the capital on 8 and 10 May 1986, Chairman Pham Van Dong stressed that "We must emphasize self-criticism and criticism, and must resolutely, promptly, and appropriately deal with people who are ugly and corrupt, people who commit crimes in the party organizations, the state organs, the mass organizations, the armed forces, and the other organizations."

In order to contribute positively to the Sixth Party Congress and respond to the appeal of Chairman Pham Van Dong, the newspaper LAO DONG has begun a Workers' Mailbox on Party Building column. Readers are encouraged to ardently participate, with the following contents:

Uncovering problems and events to bring to the attention of the party committee echelons, cadres, and party members in the state economic bases, the party organs, the state, and the trade union system, which are carrying out a self-criticism and criticism campaign. For the immediate future, please emphasize problems and events regarding the moral quality of party members, the style of leaders, and the cadre policy.

From the point of view of workers directly engaged in production and other work at the basic level, make recommendations to the party regarding the obligations and rights of workers, the mastership right of workers, and the relationships between the party and the laboring masses and between the party and the trade union.

The letters must bring up problems and events accurately, specifically, and practically, problems and events about which many people are concerned and which are "current topics" at the basic level.

Letters should be sent to LAO DONG, 51 Hang Bo Street, Hanoi. No stamp is necessary. Address the letters to Workers' Mailbox on Party Building. The editorial board will print the letters in the newspaper.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

OFFICER INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL CATTLE DEAL

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 May 86 p 3

[Article by Ngoc Oanh: "Some Illegal Types of Cattle Dealing"]

[Text] Recently, taking advantage of the scarcity of pork and beef, and of the commercial sector still experiencing many difficulties, the itinerant merchants who slaughter and sell blackmarket pork and beef have revived and are operating strongly in many forms. Nearly all of that blackmarketing involves collusion between the dishonest merchants and degenerate employees of the organs, sections, and sectors.

Letter of Introduction for Training in Cattle!

On 8 April, an officer of unit X who was stationed in Hoc Mon, was caught in the act of delivering to Ut Giao and Duc Bung (infamous blackmarket slaughterers in that area) 10 cows which had been transported from Cu Chi District to Hoc Mon. When he was discovered, Vo Thanh Hung only presented a letter of introduction from his unit which stated that he was going "to take training in cattle"! The functional organ investigated and found out that the unit had sent Vo Thanh Hung to buy three cattle in Cu Chi to bring back to serve as draft animals in production, but Hung fell in with some itinerant merchants who bribed him with 3,500 dong to buy 10 additional cows for them. When he was investigated, Hung hastily presented a letter of introduction that said he was going to take training, to which he had added the word "cattle," so that the letter of introduction made the strange statement that he was going to "take training in...cattle"!

"Inside" Money, "Outside" Money, "Outside" Meat, "Inside" Meat

The purchasing and slaughtering station of the Agricultural and Food Products Corporation of Binh Chanh District used Tran Van Boi, alias Sau Boi, who was formerly a professional cattle merchant. The corporation exchanged manufactured goods with the provinces, then sent Sau Boi to bring back water buffaloes and cattle, and arrange for their slaughtering and delivery to marketing cooperatives to sell retail to the people. The price of fresh beef recorded on the invoice was 35 dong per kilo, but units which wanted to receive high-quality meat had to pay 31 additional dong per kilo under the table to Sau Boi! Some people will ask if fresh beef is purchased at 65 dong

per kilo how could it be sold within the retail price framework stipulated by the Commercial Service?

One of the people who received goods at the station was Nguyen Van D, the husband of a small meat merchant who was employed by the marketing cooperative of Subprecinct 10 in Precinct 6. D went to pick up meat at the station but did not take it to the cooperative's stall, but took it to his home to sell "on the outside." The evidence confiscated his house included nearly 600 kilos of beef of all kinds. From that it may be concluded that if meat is bought at "outside" prices it can only be sold "outside."

As for Sau Boi, between January and April 1986 he took in about 75,000 dong more than the amounts stated on the invoices for nearly 30 tons of beef! Did the leadership board of the Agricultural and Food Products Corporation of Binh Chanh District know what he had done? Why did many organs and sectors of the commercial sector secretly pay price differentials to Sau Boi that were nearly equal to the amounts stated on the invoices? That is a question which the sectors with management functions must answer.

The higher the price of meat on the market, the more the merchants take advantage of shortcomings in the management of sectors and units to make a profit. Therefore, the managing units must energetically investigate them and bring them to justice so that goods can reach the consumers fairly and rationally.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

CORPORATION CRITICIZED FOR EXCEEDING AUTHORITY

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 May 86 p 2

[Article by Thien Nhan: "An Authority-Exceeding Incident"]

[Text] Services...Buying and Reselling

Since the beginning of August 1985 the economic reconnaissance police of the municipal public security police discovered an "Education Services Corporation" whose "livelihood" was uncertain but which had rather large amounts of cloth and MSG, which it continually supplied to merchants.

One morning, when an automobile of that service corporation was transporting two cases of MSG, each with 50 packages) to the house of Huynh Thi Thu, a sidewalk merchant who had formed a partnership with another person to sell cloth at the Ben Thanh market, at 84/2C Co Giang Street, the reconnaissance police appeared. Although a gang of hooligans interfered so that she could get away, Mrs Phong had to report and declared that the MSG had been "transferred" by the Education Service Corporation.

On the same day, another reconnaissance team arrested Nguyen Phuoc Quyen, of Subprecinct 24, Binh Thanh District, a person who specialized in buying up goods at Cu market, who was also selling packages of MSG obtained from that corporation. Thus by the time Mrs Phong and Quyen were caught red-handed the Education Service Corporation had marketed 400 kilos of the five tons of MSG Unit 133 had "sold on credit" to the corporation at the price of 100 dong per kilo, which was in fact a disguised form of "selling on consignment ."

Another unexpected detail that occurred was that when surveilling the people who were buying up MSG at the Education Service Corporation, the reconnaissance police discovered that Dinh Van Hung, a materials clerk at Frozen Maritime Products Enterprise 4, illegally had 180,000 dong (new money) in his possession. When asked about that, he declared that the money had been given to him by Le Van Phong, a materials clerk with the Export Aquatic Products Corporation. Finally, Phong declared that the money did not belong to him, but had been "entrusted" to him by a Chinese merchant in Cho Lon! The reconnaissance police understood immediately: once that private Chinese merchant had paid the money "the rice gruel had to be ladeled out," i.e. dishonest merchants were in the buying and selling services.

A Hired Cadre and the New Style Private Merchants

Seeing that the method of livelihood and prestige of the Education Service Corporation were steadily expanding, Frozen Maritime Products Enterprise 4 sought ways to help that corporation expand its purchasing of shrimp for export! Thus the Education Service Corporation violated its stipulated function of "serving exports by means of vocational labor in the schools and by students and their families."

But they had only been engineers of the soul, so did anyone know anything about dealing in export shrimp? No need to worry: Frozen Maritime Products Enterprise 4 gave them "professional" help by lending them Hoang Van Duc, one of the enterprise's trusted cadres. During the first phase, sought out and called together itinerant shrimp merchants and assumed responsibility for paying them. Duc transported the shrimp that were purchased to Frozen Maritime Products Enterprise 4. Only then were the shrimp taken to the Export Aquatic Products Corporation to have it act as export agent and receive exchange goods." Then Duc received the exchange goods and sold them on the outside or turned over a small quantity to the Education Service Corporation to sell to the state sector, but Duc continued to keep the money obtained from the sales! As for the Education Service Corporation, Duc paid it according to the formula of the corporation receiving 15 dong (bank notes) for every kilo of shrimp Duc helped it buy. Meanwhile, when discovered by the economic police Duc had used his own money to help the corporation deliver to the Export Aquatic products corporation 8,752 kilos of shrimp worth 13,800 dollars and a quantity of exchange goods valued at 11,000 dollars, including tires, cloth, and bicycle chains and sprocket wheels.

To buy 8,752 kilos of shrimp at 62 dong per kilo, Duc had to spend 542,624 (bank notes). but with the 13,858 dollars he took in, according to the exchange rate Duc had 762,000 dong in Vietnamese money. With that profit Duc was more than able to pay the Economic Service Corporation more than 130,000 dong. That is not to mention enormous profits from selling imported goods worth 11,000 dollars.

After that incident, it was clear that the hired cadre Hoang Van Duc was only a new type of private merchant, for if the export of more than eight tons of shrimp was intended to benefit the state, with his cadres, with the itinerant buyers controlled by his organ, and with his function, why should Frozen Maritime Products Enterprise 4 hesitate to pay for each kilo of shrimp this "employee" had purchased?

Turn Around of Goods in a Warehouse

By the time it had been discovered and stopped the Education Service Corporation carried out about 10 large-scale reselling "sorties." Except for the above-mentioned MSG incident, the most noteworthy was the purchasing of tons of PE latex from the Cau Tre 5 state export goods processing enterprise to sell to a latex stachel "production base" under the guise of a bogus contract to mold plastic satchels? Then it bought a ton of PE latex from the Industrial Latex Corporation to sell outright to that production base. It was

learned that the 180,000 dong (mentioned at the beginning of the article) that were confiscated belonged to Lap, a Cho Lon "contractor" who had Phong take it to "cadre Duc" to obtain 5,000 meters of oxford cloth which on paper were exchange goods which the Education Service was about to receive.

But most worthy of mention was the case of the "turn-over" of goods in a warehouse!

The quantity involved in the first turn-over is not clear, but at the Special food Products Enterprise of the Export Aquatic Products Corporation there was a rather large quantity of imported cloth. One of the enterprise's customers was the Retail Commercial Corporation of Hoc Mon District, which had ordered 5,000 meters of "xin" cloth, which was scarce and had a high market value. But the problem was at the warehouse of the Special Food Products Enterprise. Somehow the Education Service Corporation learned of that and rushed over to buy the cloth at 72.5 dong per meter.

However, because it "had no capital" the Education Service Corporation allowed that 5,000 meters of cloth to "turn around" in the warehouse. The final act had to take place: the "contractor" Lap again appeared and the purchase documents were sent directly from the state warehouse to the dishonest merchant, with a final price of more than 100 dong per meter (the price in September 1985).

From those events it is clear that a corporation acting beyond its limits caused countless complications and difficulties for our city of nearly 4 million people in many spheres!

However, I heard a leadership cadre of the Education Service Corporation say that if they committed an error it should be corrected, but they should be praised because they earned a lot of money. a lot of money for whom? For a degenerate cadre, for dishonest 'contractors,' and a "small gift" for a certain small group? Another inestimable harm was that it contributed to causing the market to become chaotic, which people have not taken into consideration.

That outmoded viewpoint must be changed at the root and that "exceeding of limits" must be stopped immediately and eliminated at the root. In order to accomplish that our public security cadres and men must contribute positively to that "hot battlefield."

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

COMPLAINT MADE ABOUT ILLEGAL TOBACCO MARKET

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 May 86 p 3

[Article by Minh Son: "The Obverse Side of the Ton That Dam Tobacco Market"]

[Text] If you have the opportunity, drop into a retail tobacco store on the street and buy a package of Da Lat or Mai cigarettes. If you see that the package of cigarettes has a perfectly square shape and has a proper stamp of the factory that produced it, don't feel at ease because when you open the package and take out a cigarette you may see cigarettes that are wrinkled, have become unglued, or are only half-filled. Those are secondary products and rejects which have become primary products in the "magic" hands of a number of dishonest merchants.

I am a worker who lives next to the Ton That Dam tobacco market in Subprecinct 10, Precinct 1, in 1983 and 1984. After returning from work on Monday I often witnessed many open transactions among tobacco dealers there. After several arrests by the market management forces, in 1985 and 1986 they retreated into the shadows to do their business, but their "products" were never absent from the market.

Let us do a simple math problem. The difference between the price of secondary products and primary products is 20 to 30 percent (the difference between the prices of rejects and primary projects is even greater). In one day a stall can sell tens of thousands of packages of cigarettes. Thus in addition to the ordinary profit margin they increase their incomes by 20 to 30 percent. We would not be surprised to learn that some people in that sector had become rich after 3 or 4 years of such livelihood. Clearly, they have successfully combined the slogans "You can't get rich if you're not a merchant" and "be dishonest in buying and selling."

That is only one aspect of the prism of the Ton That Dam tobacco market. It is truly difficult to understand how it is that most of the cigarettes sold there are produced by the state cigarette factory. At a time when state commerce and marketing cooperatives have no cigarettes (or do not display them for sale), every day the Ton That Dam every day has sufficient goods to thousands of retail cigarette vendors in the city and hundreds of itinerant merchants from the provinces.

Let us do another math problem:

At present the price of a package of Du Lich cigarettes, as set by the Commercial Service, is 15 dong, but the Ton That Dam market sells them at 28

dong, an increase of 83 percent. Is it that that 83 percent figure has prevented store X and marketing cooperative Y from having no cigarettes or insufficient quantities to serve the people?

Then there are imported cigarettes. Although the state has long had the policy of forbidding private merchants to deal in imported cigarettes, the Ton That Dam market is still an important center in the marketing of such products. If you have the occasion to pass through the Ton That Dam market you will see people gathered around chess tables or domino table,s with cups of coffee, or sitting on the steps of houses: men women, young men, and young women. Don't think that they are unemployed. At times they work very hard, night and day, such as when ocean-going ships, convoys arrive from Cambodia, or boats from the western provinces arrive. At such times people come to sell imported cigarettes. Hundreds of cases of foreign cigarettes are brought in at a time by the ships an convoys. Within a few days those bulky goods are taken to certain addresses and the next day they continue to sit around playing chess, and making appointments for deliveries.

Another principal source of income of some of the cigarette dealers at the Ton That Dam market is counterfeit cigarettes: Lucky, Ruby, Cotab, Apsara, 7 Janvier, Sleigh, even Saigon, Du Lich, and especially Hoa Cuc, Dam Sen, and Khanh Hoi cigarettes.

I have been informed that at the end of February of this year, when the market Management Section of Precinct 1 went to inspect the goods at No 119 Ton that Dam it found that of the 200 packages of foreign cigarettes and 5,000 packages of domestic cigarettes there 700 packages were counterfeit. Although Directive 51/CT-UB/TP, dated 2 November 1985, of the Municipal Party Committee on transforming four goods sectors, which stipulated that tobacco was a product over which the state exercises unified management and has a monopoly in production and commerce. But a number of cigarette production enterprises in precincts 3 and 10 allow the private merchants at the Ton That Dam market to serve as agents in selling their Hoa Cuc and Dam Sen cigarettes, although the governmental administration of Precinct 1 was not consulted. Can those enterprises guarantee that counterfeit Hoa Cuc and Dam Sen cigarettes will not be sold by their "agents"?

Security and order at the Ton That Dam tobacco market have become a complicated problem. In a short, narrow street, every day hundreds of motorbicycles and bicycles carry goods in and out, then there are the arguments and fights. A number of people take advantage of disabled veterans or pretend to be disabled veterans, to transport or protect the goods of people who buy and sell illegally. During the past 2 years, they have fought with people carrying out market management work there.

The Ton That Dam cigarette market is only representative of a number of other cigarette markets in the city. Since they are so negative, should they be allowed to continue to exist? We are waiting for Precinct 1 and the city to answer that question.

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CSO: 4209/622

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

ECONOMIST COMMENTS ON GRAIN, TRANSPORTATION

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 May 86 pp 1, 4

[Contributing Opinions About the Party Congress column by Le Khoa, Ph.D. in Economics: "Some Opinions on Resolving the Grain and Transportation Problems"]

[Text] Mekong Delta Should Export Rice

Because our country lacks grain, during the past 10 years the Mekong Delta has not exported rice or sugar, two of its principal products. Since 1985 we have been self-sufficient in grain. Furthermore, the Mekong Delta now has a summer-fall, winter-spring, and 10th month rice regime; when one season ends another begins. Therefore, the matter of exporting rice and sugar in the Mekong Delta must be seriously reconsidered, especially exchanging rice for urea and NPK fertilizer, insecticides, and raw materials for the Saigon-Bien Hoa industrial zone.

The price of a ton of rice equals the price of a ton of urea or NPK, and by spreading a ton of urea or NPK on fields in the Mekong Delta we can harvest 25 tons of rice. Based on the international price formula of a ton of rice equalling a ton of urea, we could implement a program of exporting rice and importing urea and NPK, so instead of each hectare providing three to four tons of rice, as at present, we could harvest eight to ten tons of rice and double our rice output within a brief period of time.

It should also be pointed out that the peasants of the Mekong Delta have some surplus rice, but often keep it instead of selling it because prices are unsuitable or the state does not have manufactured goods to exchange with them. That problem can be resolved by exporting some rice and importing some raw materials for the Saigon-Bien Hoa industrial zone (which at present is operating at only 50 percent capacity because of raw materials and POL shortages) so that it can operate at full capacity, then use goods manufactured in that industrial zone to exchange for agricultural products in the Mekong Delta. We will thus create an economic alliance between the Mekong Delta and the Bien Hoa industrial zone, and between imports and exports.

That economic alliance will serve to fight inflation, for when the volume of goods increases the balance between goods and money will be restored. More

specifically, the peasants would very much like to ;exchange three kilos of rice for one kilo of urea, while the international formula is one kilo of rice for one kilo of urea. That creates the capability for the export-import enterprises to earn big profits and pay high taxes to the state.

I would like to say more about the exporting of rice. At present the price of rice is only one-third the price of rice. Therefore, our capability with regard to grain production is even more solidly based. We can export 5 to 10 tons of rice in exchange for 15 to 30 million tons of wheat, so our country's grain problem will be resolved, livestock will have much wheat to eat, and animal husbandry will develop strongly. The problem of transporting rice from the Mekong Delta to the north will also be resolved because it is possible to import foreign wheat directly via the ports of Hanoi and Hai Phong instead of transporting rice from south to north. One question that is posed is whether the price of wheat will tend to decline over a long period of time and whether a program to exchange rice for wheat can be prolonged for 5 to 10 years.

It is difficult to make accurate predictions, but economically we can rely on the law of supply and demand: if supply increases and demand decreases, or does not increase, prices will fall, but if supply is small and demand is large, prices will increase.

Wheat is grown in developed countries in Europe and North America, and in the Soviet Union. Only recently have scientists discovered high-yield miracle rice varieties which provide yields of more than 10 tons per hectare, and that green revolution has developed strongly because it has not encountered shortages of POL, fertilizer, insecticides, and agricultural machinery, as in the underdeveloped nations. Therefore, the supply of wheat has multiplied while the demand for wheat has not increased, for in North America, Europe, and even Poland and the Soviet Union, women give birth to very few children, so population has not increased appreciably.

Rice is produced in Asia and a number of other places, but even though such places have high-yield miracle rice they are faced with the obstacles of shortages of tractors, fertilizer, POL, and insecticides, and population pressure increases very strongly, so the demand for rice is very strong.

Therefore, according to the law of supply and demand the price of wheat must fall and the price of rice must increase. On the basis of that law, the state and the export-import organs must boldly implement a program to export rice in exchange for wheat, while at the same time promoting the consumption of wheat in all forms, by organizing bread bakeries and noodle bakeries, producing animal feed from wheat, and replacing some rice with wheat. Thereby the animal husbandry and grain problems will be resolved and an effective contribution will be made to stabilizing the cost of living.

Increasing the Production of Electric Power

According to 1976-1984 economic-social statistical data of the Ho Chi Minh City Statistics Department, made public in April 1985, the amount of

electricity generated, which was 1,279 million KWH in 1976, increased to 1,545 million in 1980, 1,725 million in 1983, and 1,900 million in 1984. Thus the output of electricity has nearly doubled since 1976. However, the electricity output has not kept up with demand. Every week the Electric Power Corporation must cut off the electricity during the day or at night, several times during some weeks.

At present we are awaiting the completion of the Tri An Hydroelectricity Plant, but the first turbines will not begin to generate electricity until 1987-1988 at earliest, and if, when the Tri An plant begins to generate electricity, we promote the program to produce electricity from Lam Dong bauxite, and the metallurgy program, we will need two, three, or many Tri An hydroelectricity plants to meet our country's economic development needs.

Furthermore, although the hydroelectricity plants have the advantage of not requiring fuel, many years are required for their construction, while our needs for electricity are very urgent and demand immediate resolution. Every time there is an interruption of electricity the enterprises must stop work and kerosene lamps, with their poisonous vapors, are again lit, and much serious harm is done to tasks requiring electricity (such as schools, incubating machines, sugar refining machinery, etc.)

We recommend the application of a number of urgent measures to increase the sources of electrical energy in our country and in Ho Chi Minh City, instead of organizing power outages:

a. Increase exports, including rice and raw sugar, and use the foreign exchange that is earned not to import not Honda coupes and color TV's but residual oil and mobile diesel engines, in order to generate electricity.

b. Increase the production of coal and organize the generation of electricity from coal and peat. According to statistical data of the Statistics General Department, in 1975 the nation produced 5.2 million tons of coal, in 1980 it produced 5.3 million tons of coal, in 1983 6.2 million tons, and in 1984 4.9 million tons of coal. It is only necessary to do a good job of resolving the problems of salaries, food, and machinery and trucks, for the coal output to increase notably.

c. Study the use of "red coal" (in the South there many thermal springs that can be used to generate electricity if there is drilling more than 200 meters deep to find temperatures greater than 120 degrees centigrade), promote the building of small hydroelectricity projects, use such energy sources as methane, etc.

At present, oil is being exploited in the South China Sea and Ho Chi Minh City has begun to receive daily shipments of crude oil. It is necessary to urgently study the construction of oil refineries, as well as hiring or buying ships to transport natural gas in order to recover natural gas along with crude oil and transport them to Ho Chi Minh City, instead of wasting the natural gas, as is done in the oil fields of the Middle East.

Although many difficulties and obstacles are being encountered in producing electrical energy from coal, crude oil, natural gas, "red coal," etc., they

can be overcome. We should not wait for the Tri An hydroelectric plant to be completed. On the contrary, the demand for electricity is multiplying with the program of industrializing the South. We think that it is better to pose the question of increasing the production of electric power rather than organize power outages several times a week, which inflicts serious harm on life and production in the city.

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AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

REASONS FOR DECLINE IN SUGAR PRODUCTION DISCUSSED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 11 May 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Vo Han Lam: "Why Have Yields in the Sugar Cane-Sugar Sector Declined?"]

[Text] Now that the 1985-1986 season is almost over and the preliminary figures are in, Federated Industrial-Agricultural Sugar Cane-Sugar Enterprise 2 has to accept the truth: sugar output has reached only 34,500 tons, a decline of 9,000 tons as compared with the previous season.

The director general of Federated Sugar Cane-Sugar Enterprise 2 said that "this year, the sugar mills did a very good job of readying machinery and equipment before the start of the season and so no major technical difficulties were encountered this season. The La Nga Sugar Mill, which has a planned capacity of 2,000 tons of sugar cane a day, handled up to 1,800-1,900 tons of sugar cane a day and produced an average of 100 tons of sugar a day throughout the month. The only thing is that sugar cane yields dropped this year, and on many occasions the mills lacked raw materials."

The realities of the 1985-1986 sugar cane-sugar season show that based on estimates to the end of the season, the Quang Ngai Sugar Mill, which did the best job in fulfilling the plan, purchased only about 150,000 tons of sugar cane as compared with the norm of 165,000 tons. The La Nga Sugar Mill purchased only 149,000 tons of sugar cane as compared with the norm of 210,000 tons. The Binh Duong Mill purchased 108,000 tons as compared with the norm of 179,500 tons. Last was the Hiep Hoa Mill, which purchased only 54,000 tons of sugar cane as compared with the plan of 120,000 tons.

As for why this happened, one reason is that the price and currency fluctuations, which continued for more than 6 months last year, rendered the state's price policies on purchasing sugar cane out of date. The peasants could not accept the stipulated price of 230-260 dong per ton of sugar cane in conditions in which there were no goods of equivalent value. And this year, the sugar cane sector has not been able to give agricultural materials norms for supplying materials to the sugar cane growers. To keep from setting the sugar cane "adrift," the sugar cane-sugar sector boldly subsidized "beginning season" prices, which effectively raised the sugar cane purchase price to 285 dong per ton. This price, too, became out of date and so the mills had to use

"transport price subsidies" to raise the price to 350 dong per ton. Some places implemented additional "end-season price subsidies" to raise the price to 450 dong per ton based on local requirements.

But these formulas were only moderately effective. One cadre in the sugar cane-sugar sector said that said that "last year, the mills were flooded with sugar cane. But this year, the mills have gone everywhere looking for sugar cane. Last season, there were tens of thousands of tons of raw sugar available for producing refined sugar. But this year there are only several hundred tons." One reason is that even though the purchase price of sugar cane has risen, it has not kept pace with peasants' expenditures on agricultural materials and consumer goods. In addition, legumes and export industrial crops exerted a great attraction last year and so many peasants switched from growing sugar cane to growing export crops, with the result that the area planted in sugar cane declined.

Because of this situation, the state's norms on purchasing sugar cane, which were given to the localities, did not have the force of law. At first, many localities agreed to pay for the sugar cane in cash. But later on they had to pay in sugar. Some localities asked the mills to pay in sugar throughout the season, with the price rising from 27-28 kg of sugar per ton of sugar cane to 35 kg of sugar per ton of sugar cane.

Although the price of sugar cane has increased, the peasants have not benefited at all. If the norms established by the state continue to be used, with 1 kg of standard nitrate fertilizer (SA) (or 1 kg of phosphate or potash fertilizer) equal to 10 kg of sugar cane, 1 liter of DO oil equal to 25 kg of sugar cane, or 1 ton of sugar cane equal to 150 kg of rice, the peasants will suffer huge losses when they sell their sugar cane to the state and are not sold goods of equivalent value in return. At the same time, the localities that exchange sugar cane for refined sugar can make large profits. Districts that purchase sugar cane from the peasants for 350 dong per ton can give it to the mills in exchange for 35 kg of sugar. This sugar can be sold to the province for 22 dong per kg, and the province can sell it on the markets for 40-45 dong per kg.

Making use of the fact that sugar cane prices have changed slowly and the fact that the state has encountered difficulties in providing goods of equivalent value to the peasants, private businessmen have begun to "stir." They have competed with the state in making purchases and so prices have risen to 700, 800 and even 1,100 dong per ton. As a result, the price of sugar on the markets has increased continuously.

Although they have taken many forms, the difficulties of the sugar cane-sugar sector are "long-term problems" that have appeared again and again during the past 10 years. The problem is not that prices are out of line. Rather, the main reason is that the objective laws have not been used well during conditions in which the five economic elements still exist and there are no correct investment policies for sugar cane. The sugar cane-sugar sector has not carried out its special-sector management functions, from crop growing to processing, or formed a direct relationship with the peasants. Instead, it has gone through many middlemen. Sugar cane materials are not concentrated in a

sector management sector. Instead, they have been given to the agricultural, domestic trade, and other sectors. Reality shows that in the unfavorable situation during the 1985-1986 sugar cane season, those places that had suitable policies for the sugar cane growers experienced fewer problems. Thanks to having rice, sugar, and fertilizer and making exchanges with the peasants, even though the purchase price of sugar cane was only 280 dong per ton, the Quang Ngai Sugar Mill was still able to obtain large quantities of sugar cane in order to maintain stable production. Because of this, the price of sugar in Quang Ngai is only half that in Ho Chi Minh City and the western provinces. In particular, because of having a direct relationship with the peasants at the village level, allowing the peasants to borrow money, having goods of equivalent value, and investing in the construction of roads and public welfare projects for the localities, the La Nga Sugar Mill was able to get rid of the private traders who were trying to purchase the sugar cane and stabilize prices.

Only by implementing Political Bureau Resolution 31 satisfactorily, having suitable policies regarding sugar cane growers, reducing the middlemen, and giving the processing plants greater control will the sugar cane-sugar sector be able to solve this long-standing problem--the lack of raw materials.

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AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

IMPORTANCE OF SALTWATER FORESTS EMPHASIZED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 May 86 p 3

[Article by Tran Dinh Ba: "Planting and Protecting Salt-Water Forests--an Important and Urgent Mission"]

[Text] More than half of the localities in the 20 provinces and municipalities located along the coast from Mong Cai to Ha Tien have saline swampland and salt-water forests. But the salt-water forests only remain in a number of localities in the former Nam Bo provinces, concentrated in two large areas: Duyen Hai District (Ho Chi Minh City) and Nam Can District (Minh Hai district). Forests in general and salt-water forests in particular not only provide immediate benefits but also have great value with regard to the environment of man and the various kinds of fauna and maritime products, and serve to retain soil and extend the coastline further out to sea. According to observations, in the Ca Mau Peninsula alone every year the mainland extends 80 to 100 meters out to sea. For those reasons, planting and protecting salt-water forests has become an important and urgent missions with significance in many regards: economically, socially, and with regard to security, national defense, and expanding the nation's territory.

Clearly realizing their important and urgent mission in planting and protecting the salt-water forests, in recent years nearly all provinces, municipalities, and special zones of the Nam Bo provinces have made very great effort. Every year, during the rainy season the localities launch afforestation movements. Many provinces have expanded the form of assigning land and forest areas to the production bases and the state forests have paid attention to creating tree varieties and have a suitable incentive policy for the afforestation organs and production bases. Therefore, the movement to plant coastal forests has received rather enthusiastic response. According to statistics of the Ministry of Forestry, during the 10 years since the liberation eight provinces, municipalities, and special zones--Vung Tau-Con Dao, Dong Nai, Ho Chi Minh City, Hau Giang, Cuu Long, Ben Tre, Minh Hai, and Kien Giang--afforested 67,100 hectares of salt-water forests. Minh Hai led the way with 26,400 hectares, Ho Chi Minh City afforested 22,000 hectares, Ho Chi Minh City afforested 22,000 hectares, and Don Nai was third with 11,000 hectares.

Many areas afforested during the past several years have begun to form closed canopies. Every year thinning out provides the provinces with hundreds of thousands of cubic meters of firewood and promptly met the people's need for cooking fuel, which is becoming very great.

However, those afforestation results are still low in comparison to the requirements. At present, the total saline swampland and salt-water forest area in the Nam Bo provinces total about 230,003 hectares, of which the natural forest area accounts for about 120,000 hectares. The afforested area amounts to about 67,100 hectares. Not counting the saline swampland area that is built up every year, the area of saline swampland that has not yet been afforested in the Nam bo provinces still amounts to 43,000 hectares. That is a considerable figure which demands that the localities with saline swampland apply more urgent, resolute measures to rapidly afforest the remaining unafforested area.

In general, the afforestation of salt-water forests is easy and convenient, is efficient, and quickly brings about greater economic effectiveness than afforestation and tree planting in the mountainous and lowland areas. Among the principal types of trees in the inundated areas, mangrove trees account for the absolute majority and are planted most by the localities. But in the saline swampland area there are five different kinds of soil, each of which is suitable for only one kind of tree. In the area inundated by low tides, the soil is loose mud or aluvial sand, which is suitable for only two types of trees: "luoi dong" rubus palmatus and black rubus palmatus. The area inundated by average tides the saline soil is packed mud, which is only suitable for mangrove, "dung," or "ban dang" trees. The area inundated by high tides has soft clay soil that is only appropriate to "tu" mangrove, "vet tach" mangrove, and "da quanh" mangrove trees. Areas inundated by tides on an irregular basis usually have very hard soil which is suitable only for "gia" or date palms.

Due to failure to carefully study the nature of the soil and appropriate trees because of excessive "worship" of mangrove trees, during the recent period thousands of hectares of mangrove trees have been planted in unsuitable areas, so they could not develop, or immediately after they were planted they were washed away by waves. Some localities have had to replant the trees many times, with the result that in the end their efforts amounted to nothing.

That situation has posed a very strict requirement: if the planting of salt-water forests is to attain the highest effectiveness the localities must carry out meticulous, accurate studies of the land areas inundated by salt water in order to select trees most appropriate to each soil area. In order to accomplish that, in order to study and research the soil, the forestry sectors in localities with saline swampland and salt-water forests must have plans and rich, varied, and stable sources of saplings in order to take the initiative in planting salt-water forests.

In planting and protecting salt-water forests, attention must be paid to preventing and eliminating insects and diseases, and to regular thinning in order to fully utilize the sources of firewood to serve the people and create the necessary development for the trees. At the same time, attention must be

paid to building systems of dikes to stop waves, and canals and ditches to ensure the drainage of tidal and rain water, and ensure the necessary nutritional requirements so bring about the greatest economic effectiveness during the shortest possible growth period.

Our salt-water forests are not only a great source of vegetable wealth but also constitute a very great source of shrimp and fish, especially export shrimp, which are favored on the world market. Furthermore, the increasing extension of the saline marshland into the sea holds great promise for large specialized cultivation fields with much new land. Therefore, the most effective combined use of the potential of the salt-water forests is not only a major problem that has been posed the forestry sector but requires close coordination between the agricultural and maritime products sectors in the localities with saline swampland.

For a long time, because there has been no close coordination a widespread situation that has occurred has been that a sector knows only its own work. The forestry sector has made many efforts and expended much money and materiel to develop and protect the salt-water forests. The agricultural sector competes for open areas which the forestry sector has not afforested, and even destroys newly planted trees which have not had time to develop in order to grow grain crops. Therefore, the degree of salinity is still high and tide water rises and falls irregularly, so the grain cannot develop. As a result, the forests of the forestry sector increasingly diminish and the agricultural sector does not benefit, and in the end cultivable land remains uncultivated.

Due to natural conditions, the saline swampland areas have large reserves of export shrimp. That is an important source of maritime products. Its development will enrich the localities and the nation and is extremely necessary. But in some areas development has been unplanned, which has affected the development of the salt-water forest areas. There are even localities in which thousands of hectares of salt-water forests have gradually been destroyed because attention has been paid only to shrimp and not to protecting trees. In those salt-water forest areas which have been "devastated" by man, not only have trees been destroyed but the shrimp breeding grounds no longer exist and the shrimp harvest steadily declines.

Therefore, planting and protecting the salt-water forests in order to fully utilize their greatest economic capabilities is a heavy responsibility of the party committee echelons, the governmental administrations, the forestry sector, and many relevant sectors, especially the agricultural and maritime products sectors.

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AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

INCREASED EMPHASIS ON SHRIMPING URGED

Hai Phong HAI PHONG in Vietnamese 2 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by Manh Tuong: "On the Catching and State Purchasing of Shrimp"]

[Text] In 1985 the aquatic products sector and the Aquatic Products Export Corporation contributed to the municipality 150 tons of frozen shrimp for export and began to affirm the strengths of the maritime economy. During the first quarter of 1986 the corporation purchased 52 tons of fresh shrimp, an increase of 11 tons over the same period last year.

Exercising its right to take the initiative in commerce in the spirit of Resolution No 4 of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee, the corporation reached agreement with the bank and was allowed to use cash obtained from selling goods to purchase shrimp for export. Fourteen boats of processing enterprises with motors of 6, 12, 33, and up to 150 horsepower remained at sea for long periods, closely followed the fishermen to buy shrimp, and exchanged goods at sea. The sector's shrimping enterprise contracted output to each boat and for each trip to sea, and commanded concentrated shrimping by the fleet, so it was able to tightly mange output. During the first quarter of 1986 the corporation purchased nearly 10 tons of shrimp. Giving authority to the districts to take the initiative in purchasing shrimp, the corporation, taking the export route, turned over to the districts a number of essential consumer goods to be used in exchange. Therefore, during the past 3 months Cat Hai District turned over to the corporation 18 tons of fresh shrimp. In order to take the initiative in processing and improving the quality of frozen shrimp for export, the corporation made in-depth investments in the processing enterprises, purchased equipment, and quickly installed refrigeration equipment with a capacity of two tons a day. That installation has been brought into operation, has worked well, and has met high export standards, at a flash freezing temperature of 30 degrees C. It has been evaluated highly by the Ministry of Aquatic Products and bears the name "Freezing Factory No 42."

The shrimp production forces of the municipality now have developmental momentum. They include the Cat Ba fishing enterprise and the fishing and shrimping enterprise of Aquatic Products Service. The purchasing and processing enterprise also has a number of motorized boats which both purchase

shrimp and produce. The Hong Hai cooperative in An Hai, which has much experience in catching shrimp by using drag nets, has been appropriately equipped to catch shrimp for export. Implementing the policy of the Municipal Party Committee and the Municipal People's Committee, and encouraged by the aquatic products sector, the fishermen and peasants in the areas along rivers and along the sea in the municipality have developed 1,000 three-layered drift nets to catch shrimp. Every year those production forces contribute three-fourths of the shrimp for export. Because many producers, many people selling shrimp, and many people purchasing shrimp pushed prices upward, on 25 December 1985 the Municipal People's Committee issued Decision 1558 QD/UB on state shrimp purchasing. The decision clearly stated that "It is strictly forbidden for the sectors and units not directly under the management of the municipal aquatic products sector and do not have a function related to shrimping to participate in buying and selling the various kinds of specialized materials of the aquatic products sector or the various kinds of aquatic products, especially aquatic products for export."

The decision was clear, but at present a number of units and dozens of specialized shrimp merchants still buy shrimp at the places of production.

Recently, in a period of only a day the municipal market management forces and the aquatic products sector uncovered seven instances of shrimp purchasing that was not in accord with functions. One such instance involved Hoang Dinh Khang, a worker at the Do Son aquatic products raising enterprise, who purchased 16 kilograms of yellow shrimp at Do Son, then took advantage of enterprise red tape to transport and sell it to the maritime products enterprise federation. Another instances involved Nguyen Van Cap, a specialized merchant in the city of Do Son who sold 21 kilograms of shrimp of all kinds. Bui Van Tue, of Nam Hai village, who purchased 20 kilograms at the wharf for resale; Pham Van Vuong, a small merchant who purchased shrimp on the market and sold the enterprise 21 kilograms; Nguyen Van Nien, who sold 10 kilograms of shrimp; Do Thao, who sold 13 kilograms of shrimp, etc. Every year the municipality loses a considerable quantity of export shrimp because it does not economize in consumption and because a number of unauthorized units and individuals who are not part of the municipal export aquatic products corporation buy shrimp.

In order to concentrate the municipality's sources of export shrimp, the districts must both actively purchase shrimp and closely manage the market. They must exercise management at sea, at the shrimping fields, at the mouths of rivers and inlets, and at the wharves. The market management forces of the maritime products sector must coordinate closely with the intersectoral control stations to effectively prevent the illegal buying and selling of shrimp.

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TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

VIETNAM

EFFORTS TO TRANSPORT GOODS TO HIGHLANDS, FRONTIERS EXTOLLED

Hanoi GIAO THONG VAN TAI in Vietnamese 22 May 86 p 1

[Text] In the service of developing production and in support of combat and stabilizing daily life for the people, cadres, workers, civil servants, and soldiers, our sector is tasked with transporting goods to the highlands and the frontiers, zones of unlimited importance to the economy and national defense. Recognizing this importance, central transport forces have been very successful over the past at coordinating the transport of grain, coal, fertilizer, and general merchandise to highland provinces. Local transport units have also made efforts to receive goods distributed by the central echelon and organize good transport within the provinces.

The railway sector arranged for many trains to carry goods from Hai Phong and Ho Chi Minh City up to Lang Son, Hoang Lien Son, and Bac Thai. In particular, many trains were dedicated to hauling good quality freight fast and safe from Song Than Station (Ho Chi Minh City) directly to Lang Son and Hoang Lien Son. The Confederation of River Transport Enterprises 1, and especially River Transport Enterprise Nos. 1 and 5, kept transporting coal, grain, and salt to the ports of Hoa Binh and Viet Tri, from where many convoys of self-propelled vessels bring grain up to Ha Tuyen and poll boats bring coal up Thao River to Yen Bai and up Lo River to Tuyen Quang. Motor transport forces, which are by nature mobile, travel long distances and penetrate deep, hauled goods in large volumes very near the consumer. Urgent requirements have often required motorized transport units to return to Hanoi and Hai Phong to pick up goods to take to the highlands. In spite of difficulties, truck units tried to strictly comply with dispatch orders.

Nevertheless, the demands of daily life, production, and combat have called for timely delivery of an ever increasing volume of goods in the highlands, and results achieved in the transport of some essential goods in some places have not met volume and deadline requirements. Transport contracting has been disjointed in some sectors. For these reasons, the ministry is directing transport units to concentrate means of transport and give priority to bringing goods to the highlands before the storm season this year. The entire sector is resolved to transport goods to the highlands and borders in full volume and on time and to ensuring quality and safety. For the immediate future, the railway transport sector will ensure that 12 cars

will carry grain to Lang Son and Hoang Lien Son daily; the river transport sector will contend with tides at the start of the season and dispatch more means of transport, ensuring that 2,000 tons of grain are carried to Ha Tuyen each month and that pole boats are used to get coal to Yen Bai and Tuyen Quang. With their capability for going long distances and penetrating deep, trucks will ensure that needs are met for transporting goods to distant and remote areas; at the same time exploiting their mobility, they will be prepared to return to resolve difficulties with goods in the rear. Local transport forces in each highland province must take the initiative of coordinating with central transport units to arrange for receipt of the cargo and its timely transport to the places where it is to be used.

In the spirit of socialist cooperation, some other central and local transport units, such as the Ha Son Binh, Hai Hung, and Hai Phong Communications and Transportation Services, River Transport Corporation No 2, and the Heavy Transport Corporation, though they do not transport goods directly to highland and border areas, have received and continue to receive more goods for transport to units in midland and delta areas, especially Hanoi. In combination with bringing goods to the highlands, the central motor transport sector and Lang Son are coordinating with the railway sector to transport Na Duong coal from Lang Son to cement factories, and the river and rail transport sectors are coordinating to carry Lam Thao phosphorus fertilizer from Viet Tri (in Vinh Phu) to Hai Phong and Quang Ninh for shipment by sea to the south in service of agricultural production.

Transport service to highland and border areas is a task that supports both production and combat, protecting the security of our beloved borders and Fatherland. Every cadre and worker in transport units is striving to complete and surpass the transport plan in support of highland and border provinces.

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LABOR

VIETNAM

PHAM VAN DONG TALKS WITH DELEGATES TO LABOR CONFERENCE

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 22 May 86 p 4

[Article by "P.V.": "An Affectionate, Useful Meeting"]

[Text] Editor's Note: As we reported, 3 months after the meeting at the beginning of the year, on 8 and 10 May, Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong again met with representatives of laborers, workers, and trade unions in Hanoi, this time in greater numbers. It was an affectionate, useful meeting and dialogue, for while listening to reports Chairman Pham Van Dong stood up and spoke with people near-by. Thus there were enthusiastic conversations and excited applause. The entire assembly hall fell silent and paid close attention.

We recorded a number of the conversations.

Activate the Laboring People To Track Down People Engaged in Illegal Livelihoods

It was then the turn of Mrs. Ha, Chairman of Nguyen Trung Truc Subward, Ba Dinh Ward, to speak. Mrs. Ha said that her subward had provided work for many people who were unemployed or had illegal incomes. Her subward also relies on the masses to uncover and bring to justice people who are engaged in illegal livelihoods and disturb order and security. While Mrs. Ha was speaking Chairman Pham Van Dong signaled with a raised hand and said:

"It is good that a female comrade is a subward chairman and can accomplish that. I heard you say that thanks to discoveries by the masses we were able to suppress people who cause economic harm, black marketers, colluders, and thieves. But that must you say to a worker such as Thinh, who works at machine Tools Manufacturing Factory No 1, to work contentedly? In your subward are there still people who refuse to work but live like kings and become rich on the backs of workers?"

"I'm sure that there are some, but they earn their livings surreptitiously so we do not have enough evidence to confront them over their crimes."

"That right. They exist all over the city. Your subward is not the only one with such people. As for proof about the livelihood of those parasites, the

people know all about them. You must, along with the people motivate the working people to track down people with illegal livelihoods. They must be completely eliminated. Are you capable of doing so?"

"I promise you that we will do so."

"That's good. If there are any difficulties, get in touch with the leadership comrades at the municipal level to discuss ways to resolve them."

Can the Importation of Autos Be Reduced To Import More Garbage Trucks?

Long, trade union secretary of the Sanitation Corporation, arose to give a report. As they listened to him speak, everyone was sympathetic over the hardships endured by the workers of the Sanitation Corporation. At present the corporation sends teams or groups of workers to pick up trash in the subwards, under the guidance and management of the subwards, in order to clean up and beautify the subwards, but some subwards have not truly been concerned with that matter. The Chairman asked Long, "Which subwards do you mean?" Long hesitated.

"OK, then. You should draw up two lists, one of the subwards which have done a good job, and one of the subwards which have not. The lists should be made public so that those which have not done a good job will have to do so."

Among his recommendations, Long stated that it was not good to have large garbage dumps in the city, but that 40 garbage trucks would be necessary to clear away those dumps, while the corporation had only two decrepit trucks. He recommended that the city allow the importation of 40 such trucks. The chairman whispered something to comrade Tran Vi, who nodded his head. Chairman Pham Van Dong stood up and said to everyone:

"There are many autos on the streets of Hanoi, but there is a need for 40 garbage trucks. Have any organs represented here purchased autos for use by cadres." Several people responded "Yes." The Chairman shook his head and continued, "I know that some organs have bought good autos for individuals at time when the city needs garbage trucks. What do you think about that?" The Chairman smiled and said, "Perhaps we could import fewer autos in order to import additional garbage trucks, could we not?" There was a roar of laughter.

Mr. To's Recommendation

Everyone listened very attentively to the opinions of Tran Vi, for they were opinions of the municipal chairman and the opinions of the capital's party organization. In addition to synthesizing nearly 20 opinions of delegates, Tran Vi further clarified a number of forthcoming work policies of the Standing committee of the Municipal Party committee which all sectors, circles, and echelons had to take very specific steps to implement in the circulation-distribution, housing, prices, market management, social order, and other tasks. When Tran Vi spoke of the criticism and self-criticism activities in the party, he said that Hanoi has 150,000 party members, who are valuable capital and a hard-core force in the capital's revolutionary

movements. He also noted that a considerable number of Hanoi's party members have degenerated, weakened the party's prestige, and lessened the confidence of the people. At that point chairman Pham Van Dong interrupted by raising a hand and asked.

"Can you tell us what percentage of the party members have gone wrong?"

"We have categorized the party members and concluded that about 20 percent of the party members are deficient with regard to moral quality and revolutionary virtue."

"Are the rest good? Are they fully qualified to be party members?"

"About 30 percent of them lack the exemplary vanguard nature of party members."

Chairman Pham Van Dong shook his head with a look of dissatisfaction and asked everyone:

"At the time of the August 1945 Revolution, how many members did our party have?" (there were a few answers). "That's right, only about 5,000 party members. Even so, our party led the masses in an extremely great national undertaking and brought about independence and freedom for the nation and happiness for the people. Our party continued to lead the people in winning one victory after another. Even so, today, in the enterprise of building socialism and defending the Fatherland, some party members have gone wrong."

The Chairman also expressed a number of opinions so that the delegates could think about them and find the best ways to carry them out, especially in order to strengthen the Hanoi party organization. When the chairman finished speaking, Tran Vi continued in a respectful and comradely voice:

"The recommendations of Brother To (an intimate nickname of Chairman Pham Van Dong) cause us to think, to think in order to come up with practical measures, and then to begin work and do a very good job, even at the basic level. Only by doing a truly good job can we bring into play the leadership role of the party and restore the people's confidence."

5616

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LABOR

VIETNAM

HAI PHONG IMPLEMENTS NEW SOCIAL INSURANCE SYSTEM

Hai Phong HAI PHONG in Vietnamese 12 Mar 86 pp 3, 4

[Article by Hoang Ngoc Tri, Director of the Hai Phong Labor Service: "On Setting Up an Insurance Fund, Purchasing Insurance, and Implementing an Insurance System for Workers"]

[Text] At the conference to recapitulate 5 years of providing employment for workers in the municipality and the city, comrade Doan Duy Thanh, a member of the Party Central Committee and Secretary of the Municipal Party Committee, posed a question, "should all workers, no matter whether they work in the state sector, in the cooperatives, or in families, who when they reach retirement age receive the same benefits, and who have legitimate incomes, have to contribute a certain amount to the insurance fund? If that is done, it is certain that all workers will work positively and think of things to do, and not scheme to get into the state organs." The Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee exchanged opinions on that thought, reached unanimous agreement, and assigned responsibility to the labor organ to study the matter and make recommendations.

On 25 January 1986 the labor organ reported on its project to the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee. After the Standing Committee of the Municipal Party Committee expressed its opinions, and with the supplementary participation of a number of sectors, the Labor Service reported to the Ministry of Labor and completed the document. On 31 January 1986 the Municipal Party Committee officially approved the temporary regulations on setting up insurance funds, purchasing insurance, and implementing an insurance system for workers in the municipality. While waiting for the Municipal People's Committee to make a decision and codify regulations for the state in order to organize implementation, we would like to deal with a number of major opinions from the point of view of a research and advisory organ, in order to obtain the support and opinions of the broad popular masses.

Why is it necessary to set up an insurance fund, buy insurance, and implement an insurance system for workers?

Of course, there are many reasons, but some of the principal ones are as follows:

At present, the total population of the city is about 1.3 million, of which the labor forces account for 47 percent. By the year 2000 the workers will account for 56 percent, i.e. will account for more than half of the people in the municipality. Workers are valuable capital and are the first force in producing material wealth for society. At the same time, in the labor process they create their own history. For example, the Hai Phong of today has been expanded considerably by reclaiming land from the sea and developing into a "municipality that has both a modern port and developed industry and agriculture and is an export-import center and a tourist-service center, while also being a steel anti-aggression fortress." Thanks to the generations of workers in the municipality from the time when the female general Le Chan mobilized the people to clear wasteland and build the villages of Ven and Lac Vien, only after experiencing countless hardships could there be the city of today. The party and state are much concerned with the workers. The Municipal People's Committee has issued many directives and resolutions, and have set adopted many major measures to improve the lives of the working people. The implementation of an insurance system for state cadres, workers, and civil servants, and members of small industry-handicrafts cooperatives when they are ill, give birth, retire, become disabled, have labor accidents, or pass away also manifests the concern of the party and state for workers. But with regard to percentage, that insurance system covers only about 35 percent of all workers in the municipality, while the remaining 65 percent, who are agricultural workers and neighborhood workers, who require attention and cultivation and who are encouraged to produce contentedly in the social spheres to which they are assigned, but are not covered by an insurance system! Furthermore, the existing insurance system is still heavily characterized by a subsidized, equalizing nature. Especially, in the small industry sector, which in 1983 established a system of social insurance deductions and payments similar to that of state workers and civil servants in accordance with the insurance statutes of the Vietnam Small Industry-Handicrafts Federation, because of poor management of the insurance fund there is not yet sufficient money to make insurance payments, which causes the cooperative members to lack confidence and enthusiasm. Therefore, the laboring masses are concerned and worried about the time when they will be old and weak, which results in their seeking, by one means or another, to join a state organ or enterprise so that they can be covered by an insurance system, which causes many negative phenomena, at a time when the number of people added to that sector is very limited.

In order to overcome that situation, while at the same time strictly implementing resolutions 8 and 9 of the Party Central Committee and resolutions 38 and 41 of the Municipal Party Committee concerning the renovation of the management mechanism by changing over from the bureaucratic centralism-state subsidy system to socialist economic and commercial accounting, and also in order to manifest the evaluation and concern of the party and state toward the workers and affirm that the obligations and rights of workers in society are equal, and create conditions for distributing and using social labor in a varied manner, encourage all workers to work contentedly and enthusiastically, contribute to increasing social labor productivity, and increase social output and the national income, the Standing

Committee of the Municipal Party Committee has adopted the policy of setting up insurance funds, purchasing insurance, and implementing an insurance system for workers in the municipality.

Contents of Setting Up an Insurance Fund, Purchasing Insurance, and Implementing an Insurance System

1. With regard to common principles:

The state will assume responsibility for setting up an insurance fund and making insurance payments to workers. The state is represented by the Insurance Corporation and a system that extends down to the precincts, districts, subprecincts, villages, organs, and enterprises, to organize its implementation and management. The state's role differs from that of an organization set up by the people, such as the Old People's Care Association in the subprecincts at present.

When setting up this new insurance fund, the system of setting up social insurance funds and implementing the insurance system for cadres, workers, civil servants, and small industry-handicraft cooperative workers will be maintained, for it is a common system for the entire nation while the new insurance fund is being tried out only in Hai Phong. We will keep a step ahead, gain experience as we work, and supplement and perfect the system. If we do a good job we will help the central echelon expand the system and implement it on a national scale.

However, the new insurance fund is not being set up only for workers in the agricultural sector and neighborhoods, who are not yet covered by an insurance system, but for all workers, including cadres, workers, civil servants, and members of small industry-handicrafts cooperatives, who are now covered by an insurance system. All may purchase insurance and participate in the insurance system. One person may purchase many shares, one for himself and others for relatives. The more shares one buys the higher the benefits one receives. They may be purchased all at once, over a period of many months, or over a period of many years. Benefits are paid where the insurance is purchased. The state recognizes the right of the beneficiary.

2. On the Insurance System:

At first it will not be possible to insure all aspects, as does the present system for cadres, workers, civil servants, and small industry-handicrafts workers, but only includes insurance for people who retire, are in ill health, or as disabled and no longer to participate in production labor. The conditions for being able to retire as the same as those stated in Article 1, Decree No 235, of the Council of Ministers: 60 years of age for men, 55 years of age for women. However, people who have not yet met those requirements but are workers who are truly in poor health or are disabled and are no longer able to participate in production labor may also draw benefits from the insurance system.

When people who have purchased insurance die are paid both principal and interest after deductions are made for monthly insurance payments and

allowances for funeral expenses, including an average coffin, six meters of burial cloth, incense, and a hearse (if not paid in kind, they are calculated at the current prices and paid in money in equivalent amounts). If coverage is insufficient, the insurance fund makes up the difference, but if there is a surplus the beneficiary receives a lump-sum settlement. That system of funeral expenses will gradually be appropriately expanded.

The case of a person who buys insurance is transferred to another province can be resolved in one of the three following ways:

First, receive a lump-sum payment of principal and interest.

Second, if the place where the person is sent also has an insurance fund, the state is responsible for transferring the insurance money to the worker's new location.

Third, transfer the insurance to the beneficiary.

3. On the rates of insurance purchasing and payments:

Purchasing rate: According to initial estimates, the worker must pay a sum equal to 1.25 percent of his income every month and make the payments for 20 years or more.

Payments rate: With the payment rate of 1.25 percent a month over a period of 20 years or more, the monthly insurance payment rate is 50 percent of the average income. If the insurance is purchased 25 years or more, the payment is 60 percent, and if payments are made for 30 years or more the payment is 70 percent.

For example, the average income of a worker is 400 dong a month the corresponding insurance premium at 1.25 percent is 5 dong per month. If the insurance is purchased for 20 or more years the total is 1,200 dong, if it is purchased for 25 years or more the total is 1,500 dong, and if it is purchased for 30 years or more the total is 1,800 dong. Thus the monthly insurance benefit payment corresponding to 50 percent is 200 dong, at 60 percent it is 240 dong, and at 70 percent it is 280 dong a month.

That method of calculating the percentage rate maintains the value of money and when the average income level of the worker increases and the insurance premium and the amount of the insurance benefit payment increase proportionately.

In sum, the setting up of an insurance fund, the purchasing of insurance, and the implementation of an insurance system for workers in the municipality is a major policy of the Municipal Party Committee and the Municipal People's Committee, in order to show appropriate concern for the obligations and rights of workers while they are still healthy and can participate in production labor and contribute to society, as well as when they are no longer able to work and are allowed to retire, when they are disabled, and even when they die. It is certain that that new policy of the Municipal Party Committee and the Municipal People's Committee will be ardently supported by the organs,

mass organizations, the Fatherland Front, and the broad popular masses, for it is a policy which both "benefits the nation and benefits the family" and is appropriate to the aspirations of the workers. In the process of organizing implementation there are inappropriate points which must be changed, so with a spirit of working while gaining experience we will continue to supplement and perfect it.

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END